



CWRA SCORING CRITERIA: PERFORMANCE TASK

Analytic Reasoning & Evaluation

Interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating the quality of information. This entails identifying information that is relevant to a problem, highlighting connected and conflicting information, detecting flaws in logic and questionable assumptions, and explaining why information is credible, unreliable, or limited.

Writing Effectiveness

Constructing organized and logically cohesive arguments. Strengthening the writer's position by providing elaboration on facts or ideas (e.g., explaining how evidence bears on the problem, providing examples, and emphasizing especially convincing evidence).

Writing Mechanics

Facility with the conventions of standard written English (agreement, tense, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling) and control of the English language, including syntax (sentence structure) and diction (word choice and usage).

Problem Solving

Considering and weighing information from discrete sources to make decisions (draw a conclusion and/or propose a course of action) that logically follow from valid arguments, evidence, and examples. Considering the implications of decisions and suggesting additional research when appropriate.

6

- Identifies most facts or ideas that support or refute all major arguments (or salient features of all objects to be classified) presented in the Document Library. Provides analysis that goes beyond the obvious.
- Demonstrates accurate understanding of a large body of information from the Document Library.
- Makes several accurate claims about the quality of information.

- Organizes response in a logically cohesive way that makes it very easy to follow the writer's arguments.
- Provides valid and comprehensive elaboration on facts or ideas related to each argument and clearly cites sources of information.

- Demonstrates outstanding control of grammatical conventions.
- Consistently writes well-constructed, complex sentences with varied structure and length.
- Displays adept use of vocabulary that is precise, advanced, and varied.

- Provides a decision and a solid rationale based on credible evidence from a variety of sources. Weighs other options, but presents the decision as best given the available evidence.

When applicable:

- Proposes a course of action that follows logically from the conclusion. Considers implications.
- Recognizes the need for additional research. Recommends specific research that would address most unanswered questions.

5

- Identifies several facts or ideas that support or refute all major arguments (or salient features of all objects to be classified) presented in the Document Library.
- Demonstrates accurate understanding of much of the Document Library content.
- Makes a few accurate claims about the quality of information.

- Organizes response in a logically cohesive way that makes it fairly easy to follow the writer's arguments.
- Provides valid elaboration on facts or ideas related to each argument and cites sources of information.

- Demonstrates very good control of grammatical conventions.
- Consistently writes well-constructed sentences with varied structure and length.
- Uses varied and sometimes advanced vocabulary that effectively communicates ideas.

- Provides a decision and a solid rationale based largely on credible evidence from multiple sources and discounts alternatives.

When applicable:

- Proposes a course of action that follows logically from the conclusion. May consider implications.
- Recognizes the need for additional research. Suggests research that would address some unanswered questions.

4

- Identifies a few facts or ideas that support or refute all major arguments (or salient features of all objects to be classified) presented in the Document Library.
- Briefly demonstrates accurate understanding of important Document Library content, but disregards some information.
- Makes very few accurate claims about the quality of information.

- Organizes response in a way that makes the writer's arguments and logic of those arguments apparent but not obvious.
- Provides valid elaboration on facts or ideas several times and cites sources of information.

- Demonstrates good control of grammatical conventions with few errors.
- Writes well-constructed sentences with some varied structure and length.
- Uses vocabulary that clearly communicates ideas but lacks variety.

- Provides a decision and credible evidence to back it up. Possibly does not account for credible, contradictory evidence. May attempt to discount alternatives.

When applicable:

- Proposes a course of action that follows logically from the conclusion. May briefly consider implications.
- Recognizes the need for additional research. Suggests research that would address an unanswered question.

3

- Identifies a few facts or ideas that support or refute several arguments (or salient features of all objects to be classified) presented in the Document Library.
- Disregards important information or makes minor misinterpretations of information. May restate information "as is."
- Rarely, if ever, makes claims about the quality of information and may present some unreliable evidence as credible.

- Provides limited or somewhat unclear arguments. Presents relevant information in each response, but that information is not woven into arguments.
- Provides elaboration on facts or ideas a few times, some of which is valid. Sources of information are sometimes unclear.

- Demonstrates fair control of grammatical conventions with frequent minor errors.
- Writes sentences that read naturally but tend to have similar structure and length.
- Uses vocabulary that communicates ideas adequately but lacks variety.

- Provides or implies a decision and some reason to favor it, but the rationale may be contradicted by unaccounted for evidence.

When applicable:

- Briefly proposes a course of action, but some aspects may not follow logically from the conclusion.
- May recognize the need for additional research. Any suggested research tends to be vague or would not adequately address unanswered questions.

2

- Identifies very few facts or ideas that support or refute arguments (or salient features of all objects to be classified) presented in the Document Library.
- Disregards or misinterprets much of the Document Library. May restate information "as is."
- Does not make claims about the quality of information and presents some unreliable information as credible.

- Provides limited, invalid, overstated, or very unclear arguments. May present information in a disorganized fashion or undermine own points.
- Any elaboration on facts or ideas tends to be vague, irrelevant, inaccurate, or unreliable (e.g., based entirely on writer's opinion). Sources of information are often unclear.

- Demonstrates poor control of grammatical conventions with frequent minor errors and some distracting errors.
- Consistently writes sentences with similar structure and length, and some may be difficult to understand.
- Uses simple vocabulary, and some vocabulary may be used inaccurately or in a way that makes meaning unclear.

- Provides or implies a decision, but very little rationale is provided or it is based heavily on unreliable evidence.

When applicable:

- Briefly proposes a course of action, but some aspects do not follow logically from the conclusion.
- May recognize the need for additional research. Any suggested research is vague or would not adequately address unanswered questions.

1

- Does not identify facts or ideas that support or refute arguments (or salient features of all objects to be classified) presented in the Document Library or provides no evidence of analysis.
- Disregards or severely misinterprets important information.
- Does not make claims about the quality of evidence and bases response on unreliable information.

- Does not develop convincing arguments. Writing may be disorganized and confusing.
- Does not provide elaboration on facts or ideas.

- Demonstrates minimal control of grammatical conventions with many errors that make the response difficult to read or provides insufficient evidence to judge.
- Writes sentences that are repetitive or incomplete, and some are difficult to understand.
- Uses simple vocabulary, and some vocabulary is used inaccurately or in a way that makes meaning unclear.

- Provides no clear decision or no valid rationale for the decision.

When applicable:

- Does not propose a course of action that follows logically from the conclusion.
- Does not recognize the need for additional research or does not suggest research that would address unanswered questions.