Scoring Guide – Fall 2018

Based on the AP English Language and Composition Scoring Guide

Grade	Corresponding AP Score
100	9 Essays earning a score of 9 meet the criteria for a score of 8 and, in addition, are especially sophisticated in their analysis, thorough in their development, or impressive in their control of language.
95	8 Effective Essays earning a score of 8 effectively analyze the prompt. They develop their analysis with evidence and explanations that are appropriate and convincing. The prose demonstrates a consistent ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing.
90	7 Essays earning a score of 7 meet the criteria for a score of 6 but provide more complete explanation, more thorough development, or a more mature prose style.
85	6 Adequate Essays earning a score of 6 adequately analyze the prompt. They develop their analysis with evidence and explanations that are appropriate and sufficient. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but generally the prose is clear.
80	5 Essays earning a score of 5 analyze the prompt. The evidence or explanations used may be uneven, inconsistent, or limited. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but it usually conveys the student's ideas.
75	4 Inadequate Essays earning a score of 4 inadequately analyze the prompt. These essays may misunderstand the passage, or may analyze the prompt insufficiently. The evidence or explanations used may be inappropriate, insufficient, or less convincing. The prose generally conveys the student's ideas but may be less consistent in controlling the elements of effective writing.
70	3 Essays earning a score of 3 meet the criteria for a score of 4 but demonstrate less success in analyzing the prompt. They are less perceptive in their understanding of the novel or the prompt, or the explanations or examples may be particularly limited or simplistic. The essays may show less maturity in control of writing.
50	2 Little Success Essays earning a score of 2 demonstrate little success in analyzing the prompt. These essays may misunderstand the prompt, misread the passage, fail to analyze the prompt, or substitute a simpler task by responding to the prompt tangentially with unrelated, inaccurate, or inappropriate explanation. The prose often demonstrates consistent weaknesses in writing, such as grammatical problems, a lack of development or organization, or a lack of control.
30	1 Essays earning a score of 1 meet the criteria for a score of 2 but are undeveloped, especially simplistic in their explanation, or weak in their control of language.
10	O Indicates an off-topic response, one that merely repeats the prompt, an entirely crossed-out response, a drawing, or a response in a language other than English.
0	— Indicates an entirely blank response