

Rubric for Summary Writing

6 or 5 (Above Standard)

- The writer clearly addresses all parts of the writing task.
- The writer maintains a consistent organizational structure, including paragraphing where necessary. The structure of the summary follows the structure of the writing being summarized.
- The essay includes a clearly, well-presented central idea (topic sentence) with all relevant facts and details taken from the reading text.
- The writer paraphrases main ideas and significant supporting details.
- The writing includes a variety of sentences and good word choice.
- The writing contains few errors in conventions of English (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling). Errors made tend to be nearly “invisible.”

4 (At Standard or Proficient)

- The writer addresses all parts of the writing task.
- The writer maintains a consistent organizational structure. There is paragraphing although there may be some mistakes made in when the writer does or does not break for a paragraph. The structure of the summary generally follows the structure of the writing being summarized but the writer may change the order of a few of the details.
- The essay includes a central idea (topic sentence) with most of the relevant facts and details taken from the reading text.
- The writer paraphrases the main ideas and significant supporting details.
- The writing includes some sentence variety and appropriate word choice.
- The writing contains some errors in conventions of English (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling). Errors do not interfere with the reader’s understanding of the writing.

3 (Approaching Standard)

- The writer addresses only parts of the writing task.
- The writer demonstrates an inconsistent organizational structure and does not demonstrate solid paragraphing. The structure of the summary is not consistent with the writing being summarized.
- The essay may not have a clearly stated central idea (topic sentence) or it may only be suggested, not stated) and may omit important details or include details not in the original text.
- The writing may contain copying of key phrases taken from the reading text being summarized.
- The writing contains little sentence variety and simple but acceptable word choice.

- The writing contains many errors in the conventions of English (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling). Errors may interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

2 or 1 (Below Standard)

- The writer addresses only parts of the writing task.
- The writing has no central idea (topic sentence) and may omit many important facts. There is no apparent organizational pattern in the writing.
- The writing displays no sentence variety and simplistic or even incorrect word choice.
- The writing contains many serious errors in the conventions of English (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling). Errors interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.