

NEDP Writing Prescreening

The NEDP Writing Prescreening tool may be used to help determine readiness for the NEDP Written Prompt and for the extended writing activities found within the NEDP online portfolio.

Agencies may use this tool as part of their prescreening protocol, and should carefully consider options for administering it:

- Proctored or not? Agencies wishing to confirm that the writing skills are indeed the NEDP candidates may wish to proctor this prescreening. Agencies also have the option of sending the client home to work independently on the activity with the instructions that it must be their own work with no assistance from other people, resources, or AI.
- Timed or not? Clients will be given 75 minutes to complete the NEDP Written Prompt in the Diagnostic Phase, with a few additional minutes allowed for the client to complete their last thoughts or do a final review and edit. The prescreening tool may also be restricted to 75 minutes to mimic the requirements of the NEDP Written Prompt, or may be untimed, to mimic the writing in NEDP activities.
- Agencies wishing to mirror the format of the NEDP Written Prompts will want to use prompts that contain
 - An introductory phrase
 - A two-part question
 - No specialized knowledge is required- anyone can form an opinion about the prompt, and
 - There is no right or wrong answer to the prompt.

For instance “Some people think it’s better to raise children in the city, while others think it’s better to raise a family in the country. Which do you think and why?” follows the format above.

Other sample prompts may include:

High school completers make an average of \$10,000 more per year than those who didn’t complete high school. Do you think that employees who complete high school should be worth more money in the job market? Why or why not?

You are taking an important step in improving your life circumstances by seeking a high school credential. What are some obstacles to achieving this goal? How will you overcome these obstacles?

Social media has been a driving cultural force for over a decade. Have apps like Facebook, Instagram, and X brought us closer together? Why or why not?

NEDP Writing Prescreening Rubric

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Main Idea	Clearly stated main idea fully responds to the prompt	Stated main idea partially or fully responds to the prompt	Main idea may be unclear or unfocused.	Lacks main idea or main idea requires substantial degree of inference.
Organization	Ideas are well-organized with effective transitions. Clear components of an expository essay: introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph(s)	Organization is generally cohesive with some effective transitions. May be missing an organizational component (e.g. conclusion).	Some sequencing of ideas, may be missing one or more components of an expository essay (e.g. introduction and conclusion)	Cohesion is limited or non-existent.
Development	Relevant and ample detail supports the main idea	Detail is generally relevant to the main idea, although focus may shift slightly. Most ideas are well stated; only minor inference is required. Writer may develop one part of the prompt more thoroughly than the other.	Many ideas not well stated. Minimal support for main idea. Inference may be required. Development may be unfocused, rambling, or repetitive. Only one of two prompt parts addressed.	Little development—repetitive, poorly stated, or minimal development of main idea.
Word Choice	Demonstrates variety and richness of expression	Few word choice errors—some variety and richness of expression.	May be some errors in word choice, but few interfere with understanding.	Word choice errors interfere with understanding.
Standard English Conventions	Few, minor, or no errors in grammar and mechanics, some sentence structure complexity.	Some minor errors in grammar and mechanics do not interfere with the reader's understanding.	May contain distracting errors in grammar and mechanics that interfere with the reader's understanding.	Serious errors in grammar and mechanics interfere with the reader's understanding.