

PEARSON Support

Quality of details illustrating or explaining the central theme.

Bare: use of simple lists that focus on events or reasons. For example, “I like to go to school because it is fun.”

Extended: use of information that begins to clarify meaning. For example, “I like to go to school because it is fun when the teacher allows us to do experiments with frogs.”

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Layered: use of a series of informational statements that collectively help to clarify meaning. For example, “I like to go to school because it is fun when the teacher allows us to do experiments with frogs. We learned what kinds of foods frogs like to eat by offering them flies, worms, and seeds. We observed the frogs during the morning and afternoon to determine when they were more active. We also compared frogs to other amphibians to see what characteristics they share.”

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Elaborated: use of additional details, anecdotes, illustrations, and examples that further clarifies meaning. Information that answers the question, “What do you mean?” For example, “I like to go to school because it is fun when the teacher allows us to do experiments with frogs instead of just reading about frogs in books. Experiments allow us to have the fun of discovering for ourselves how fast and how far frogs can jump and what kinds of food frogs like to eat.” The elaboration could also provide a detailed description of the experiments.

Florida Department of
EDUCATION

Holistic Scoring

Focus refers to how clearly the paper presents and maintains a **main idea, theme, or unifying point.**

Organization refers to the structure or **plan of development** (beginning, middle, and end) and the **relationship of one point to another.** Organization refers to the **use of transitional devices** (terms, phrases, and variations in sentence structure) to signal both the relationship of the supporting ideas to the main idea, theme, or unifying point and the connections between and among sentences.

Support refers to the **quality of details** used to **explain, clarify, or define.** The quality of the support depends on **word choice, specificity, depth, credibility, and thoroughness.**

Conventions refer to the **punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and sentence structure.** These conventions are basic writing skills included in Florida's Sunshine State Standards and Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

WRITING