

HSGQE Proficiency Descriptors
of the
Minimum Competencies in Essential Skills
Writing

Write Compositions

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills

- writes narrative, informative, persuasive, and descriptive responses.
- states and defines a topic or position.
- uses reasonably clear details and support to explain ideas.
- uses a logical sequence of ideas.
- uses words that adequately convey meaning.
- uses some variation of sentence length and structure.
- uses spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar correctly for the most part and does not make errors that alter the meaning of the text.

Use Conventional English

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills

- identifies and corrects sentence fragments and run-ons.
- uses correct capitalization in a variety of types of writing.
- identifies and corrects some errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.
- identifies and corrects errors in verb tense consistency, subject-verb agreement, and regular and irregular verb usage.
- identifies and corrects errors in the usage of adverbs and adjectives.
- identifies simple sentences that are structured correctly and convey the intended meaning.

Revise Writing

A student proficient in the minimum competencies in essential skills organizes a paragraph by

- eliminating sentences that are off-topic.
- placing sentences in a logical order.
- adding transitions.
- combining two or three simple sentences into a single sentence by using subordinate clauses or prepositional phrases.
- identifying a sentence with correct placement of subordinate clauses.
- adding supporting details to develop a topic.
- maintaining meaning when revising writing.