

UCR Writing Placement Process Rubric

WRIT 010 Placement (Pass - Satisfies ELWR)

Defining Feature(s): Satisfactory Overall Control

The essay provides a clear and coherent response to the demands of the writing topic even if occasionally uneven in its delivery. It demonstrates sufficient understanding of the passage and develops a coherent argument using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. The essay observes the conventions of written English. While there may be occasional mistakes, the essay demonstrates sufficient overall control of word choice, sentence variety, and grammar fundamentals.

Course Placement

The characteristics of the essay indicate the student's readiness for collegiate composition and satisfies the Entry Level Writing Requirement, qualifying the student for placement in WRITING 010.

WRIT 007 Placement

Defining Feature(s): Challenges in One or More Key Areas

The essay may demonstrate insufficient understanding of the passage or the demands of the writing topic. It may lack a coherent argument supported by valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. Sentences often demonstrate an inconsistent command of the conventions of written English, including imprecise word choice, minimal sentence variety, and frequent errors affecting readability or occasional errors affecting understanding. This inconsistent command limits the development of ideas or distracts the reader.

Course Placement

The characteristics of the essay indicate that the student will benefit from honing skills in analytical reading, evidence-based academic writing, and language conventions. Placement in WRITING 007 will provide targeted support in these areas, preparing this student for the full demands of collegiate composition.

WRIT 005 Placement

Defining Feature(s): Moderate Challenges in Written Communication

The essay often demonstrates insufficient understanding of the passage or the demands of the writing topic. It often lacks a coherent argument or support with valid reasoning, or it does not maintain a central focus. The

evidence may be irrelevant, insufficient, or disconnected from the argument. The essay does not follow the conventions of written English: It includes a moderate number of errors, usually of various types, in word choice, sentence construction, and grammar fundamentals. These errors often create sentence-level ambiguity and reduce readability but are not so significant as to obscure meaning.

Course Placement

The characteristics of the essay indicate that the student will benefit from instruction in academic communication with greater consistency in written English conventions. Placement in WRITING 005 will help the student develop these skills in preparation for collegiate composition.

WRIT 003 Placement

Defining Feature(s): Significant Challenges in Written Communication

The essay typically demonstrates difficulty engaging with the demands of the writing topic or conveying understanding of the passage. It usually lacks a coherent argument or central focus, and the reasoning may appear fragmented. The evidence is frequently irrelevant, insufficient, or disconnected from the argument. The essay does not follow the conventions of written English: A significant number and variety of errors in word choice, sentence construction, and grammar fundamentals disrupt readability and obscure meaning.

Course Placement

The characteristics of the essay indicate that the student will benefit from instruction in the fundamentals of reading comprehension, argumentation, and language skills. Placement in WRITING 003 will provide this student with support in these fundamentals in preparation for collegiate composition.

WRIT 001 Placement

Defining Feature(s): Pervasive Challenges in Written Communication

The essay typically demonstrates severe difficulty conveying understanding of the passage and responding to the demands of the writing topic. Reasoning may be severely fragmented, making it difficult to discern a central argument. Evidence, if present, is often irrelevant or disconnected. The essay does not follow the conventions of written English: Pervasive errors in word choice, sentence construction, and grammar fundamentals severely impede readability and obscure meaning.

Course Placement

The characteristics of the essay indicate that the student will benefit from instruction in the foundations of reading comprehension, academic argumentation, and the conventions of written English before entering collegiate composition. Placement in WRITING 001 will provide this student with foundational support across all three areas.