



ACCUPLACER ESL PLACEMENT TEST INFORMATION BULLETIN

SU-2019

Purpose of the Test

The ACCUPLACER ESL Placement Test indicates your proficiency in the English language. The test scores will be used with other information you provide to place you in the correct ESL courses. We recommend that you plan to allow yourself at least 90 minutes for testing. There are two multiple choice sections: reading skills and listening, and some will be asked to complete an essay as well.

Who Must Take the Test

Mercer County Community College requires that all students complete an application online or through our Admissions Office before testing. This test is for all students enrolling in ESL courses who have met with our Admissions Office counselors for students with English as the second language or international students.

WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU ON THE TEST DAY:

- 1. A PHOTO ID**
- 2. Test request form from Admissions, if you have one**

Where and When the Test is Given

The ESL placement test is given by appointment and available most times by walk-in at West Windsor Campus (WWC) or by appointment only at the James Kerney Campus (JKC). You may call for an appointment at (609) 570-3295(WWC) or (609)570-3151(JKC).

Pencil and paper testing is available upon request for those who are not comfortable testing on computer for the reading section of the test.

Testing Regulations

No electronic devices, food, drink, books, dictionaries, calculators, or papers of any kind are allowed in the test room. Anyone who gives or receives help during the test, uses notes, books, a calculator, a cell phone or removes test materials from the room will not be permitted to continue the test. A retest would then be required for a fee.

Test Scores

Test scores are used for placement in ESL and/or English courses. If additional testing is required for placement, this will be determined and authorized by the Admissions Advisement Office. A retest requires a fee.

Please note: Your test data will only be used for placement and research purposes, and your identity will be kept confidential.

This bulletin is available at http://www.mccc.edu/student_services_testing_cspt.shtml.

ACCUPLACER ESL Reading Skills Test

Everyone will need to take the ESL Reading Skills test. It measures your ability to read English, specifically, your comprehension of short passages. It contains brief passages of 50 words or less and moderate length passages of 50 to 90 words. Half of this test contains straightforward comprehension

items (paraphrase, locating information, vocabulary on a phrase level, and pronoun reference). The other half assesses inference skills (main idea, fact versus opinion, cause/effect logic, identifying irrelevant information, author's point of view and applying the author's logic to another situation).

Sample Questions

1. Television has been introduced to almost every country in the world, reaching a large number of viewers on every continent. About 600 million people saw the first person walk on the moon, and a billion people watched the twentieth Olympic Games. Television has in many ways promoted understanding and cooperation among people. It does this by showing educational and cultural programs.

From this passage, a reader can conclude that the author believes that

- A. people spend too much time watching television
- B. not every country needs to have television
- C. television can unify people from around the world
- D. television is as important as schools

2. Janet's parents bought her a new sports car as a birthday present. It was blue. Janet sold her 7-year-old blue pickup truck to a high school student. The truck could not go very fast, but the student was happy with it.

From the passage, which of these statements can the reader assume?

- A. Janet prefers trucks to cars.
- B. Janet likes the color blue.
- C. Janet owns more than one vehicle.
- D. Janet drives her car every day.

3. Some of Edward Weston's black-and-white photographs of American nature scenes are considered superb examples of visual art. Indeed, some of his photographs have commanded top prices at art galleries.

Which of the following best characterizes Weston's photographs?

- A. They belong to famous collectors.
- B. They have been sold in art galleries for large sums of money.
- C. They introduced many Americans to visual art.
- D. They contrast American cities with natural settings.

4. Speaking to a group of people can be a frightening experience. Some speakers cope by looking above the heads of the audience. Others try to imagine that they are talking to a friend. A

few try picturing the audience in some nonthreatening way, such as in their pajamas.

The author of the passage assumes that speakers should

- A. feel comfortable when addressing an audience.
- B. scare the audience.
- C. encourage people to talk during the speech.
- D. speak only to familiar people.

5. People have different ways of learning. Some are better at making mental pictures of new ideas. Others are more comfortable with writing lists of things to memorize. Certain people can learn best when listening to music, while others need silence to concentrate.

Which of the following is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Mental pictures help many to learn.
- B. Some people prefer lists to making mental pictures.
- C. To learn well you need to be comfortable.
- D. Different individuals have different ways of acquiring information.

6. Before giving first aid to an accident victim, you should obtain his or her consent. Asking for consent takes a simple question. Say to the victim, "I know first aid, and I can help you until an ambulance arrives. Is that okay?"

"Asking for consent" means asking for

- A. permission to help the victim.
- B. thanks from the victim.
- C. help from onlookers.
- D. information about the victim's injuries.

7. Jane and Paul are busy for 15 hours a day, 5 days a week going to college and working in a restaurant. They go to sleep at 11 p.m. every day, but on Sunday they take part in dance lessons.

According to the passage, Jane and Paul spend most of their time

- A. at home.
- B. going to college and working.
- C. taking part in dance lessons.
- D. sleeping.

8. If you hold a piece of copper wire over the flame of a match, heat will be conducted by the copper wire to your fingers, and you will be forced to drop the wire. You will, however, still be able to hold the match because the match is a poor conductor of heat. Anyone, child or adult, can try this simple experiment.

Which of the following is implied in the passage above?

- A. Copper is a good conductor of heat.
- B. A match and copper conduct heat equally.
- C. A match is an excellent conductor of heat.
- D. Matches should be kept out of the reach of small children.

9. Many people own different pets. Dogs, cats, birds, and fish are common household pets. Others pets are considered to be exotic animals. These include snakes, lizards, and hedgehogs.

Snakes are

- A. uncommon pets.
- B. likely to be found in a household with dogs.
- C. found only in zoos.
- D. not allowed in people's homes.

10. Cesar Chavez was an influential leader for farmworkers. He fought for their rights and better working conditions. Chavez led many strikes that angered farm owners. Eventually he succeeded in getting increased wages and improved living situations for farmworkers.

Chavez changed lives because he

- A. helped the farmers get more workers.
- B. worked for the farmers.
- C. helped work on the farms every day.
- D. changed the conditions for the farmworkers.

11. When cartoonist Charles M. Schulz was a boy in elementary school, other boys teased him for being small and not very good at sports, and his art teacher told him he had no talent for drawing. He had few friends, and was too shy to talk to a red-haired girl he admired. Later in life, Schulz used his childhood experiences in his comic strip "Peanuts," using the strip's main character, the sad and lonely Charlie Brown, to represent himself as a little boy. "Peanuts" was unique at the time because it contained no adult characters. Readers fell in love with Charlie Brown, and "Peanuts" eventually became one of the most popular comic strips of all time.

What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. "Peanuts" was the world's most widely read comic strip.
- B. Charles M. Schulz was a very famous cartoonist.
- C. Schulz turned the pain of his youth into fame as an adult.
- D. The "Peanuts" comic strip featured children as its only characters.

12. Money has existed for thousands of years in nearly every culture as a means of exchange. However, today, the use of cash is becoming less and less common in modern societies all over the world. Every year, a higher percentage of purchases is made online, and even in stores customers are now using credit cards more often than cash. Many people today do all of their banking on the Internet rather than going to the bank in person.

The author of the passage probably assumes that

- A. cash will become virtually obsolete in the near future
- B. using cash will become popular again
- C. paying with credit cards all the time is dangerous
- D. societies that do business online will prosper

13. Insomnia — the inability to fall asleep or to stay asleep — is a condition that plagues many people at one time or another in their lives. It can be uncomfortable, but is usually not harmful, and most people who believe they have been awake all night have actually slept more than they think. While some people rely on prescription medication to help them sleep, insomnia can be controlled by changing behavior. Insomnia is often caused by stress or anxiety, but it can also be made worse by eating too heavily too late; consuming a lot of caffeine; or watching television, using computers or exercising right before bedtime. If you can't sleep, the best thing to do is to get out of bed and do something calming for a while, such as read, until you feel sleepy. Some people find that herbal tea such as chamomile helps them feel drowsy.

The author believes that people can best combat insomnia by

- A. trying to sleep
- B. taking medication
- C. accepting their condition
- D. changing their habits

14. Before giving first aid to an accident victim, you should obtain his or her consent. Asking for consent takes a simple question. Say to the victim, "I know first aid, and I can help until an ambulance arrives. Is that okay?"

- According to the passage, it is wrong to
- A. use first aid on an accident victim without medical training
 - B. attempt to help an accident victim without permission
 - C. help a victim before an ambulance arrives
 - D. call for an ambulance instead of helping the victim

15. Dr. Ellen Ochoa is an inventor and is also the first female Hispanic astronaut. Her inventions include technology to help robots to inspect equipment in space to maintain safety and quality control on spacecraft. Before retiring, she logged more than 1,000 hours in space across several space missions.

- Dr. Ochoa is
- A. the first Hispanic person to travel into space
 - B. the first inventor to travel into space
 - C. the first woman to travel into space
 - D. the first Hispanic woman to travel into space

16. Dogs and cats make very different types of pets. Before deciding whether to buy or adopt a dog or a cat, prospective owners need to carefully consider their own lifestyles and personalities. Dogs may make more affectionate companions, but they require more care and attention. They must be taken out several times a day and should not be left alone for more than a few hours. Larger dogs require significant exercise to remain fit and healthy. Cats are usually more independent in nature and interact less with their owners. Also, a cat can be left on its own all day, or even for several days, as long as it has food and clean water to drink.

- From this passage a reader can conclude that
- A. owning a cat requires less work than owning a dog
 - B. people who travel a lot should not own a cat
 - C. people who like to play with their pets should own a cat
 - D. owning a cat is more responsibility than owning a dog

17. People's moods are largely a matter of focus. It is a natural tendency of many people to focus on what is wrong in their lives, or on the day-to-day events that make them angry or irritated. However, anyone can change this by directing the mind. When feeling down or upset, a person can change his or her state of mind by recalling happy memories, by paying attention to the things for which he or she is grateful, or by directing the attention to something uplifting or beautiful, such as artwork, nature or music. By directing the mind in this way, a person can transform his or her mood in an instant, even if none of the outward circumstances have changed.

Which of the following is implied by the passage above?

- A. People's moods are determined by the conditions around them.
- B. People can take responsibility for controlling their own moods.
- C. A person's mood depends on what happens to him or her that day.
- D. People are usually in a good mood unless something happens to change it.

Answer Key

ESL Reading Skills Question

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 3. B
- 4. A
- 5. D
- 6. A
- 7. B
- 8. A
- 9. A
- 10. D
- 11. C
- 12. A
- 13. D
- 14. B
- 15. D
- 16. A
- 17. B

ACCUPLACER ESL Listening Test

Everyone will take the ESL Listening Skills test. It measures your ability to listen to and understand one or more people speaking in English. Conversations take place in a wide range of locations including lecture halls, grocery stores, and libraries. During the Listening section there will be three components to each question: 1) the dialogue, 2) the question, and 3) the answer choices.

ACCUPLACER ESL Writeplacer (Written Essay)

Only some test takers will be asked to complete the WritePlacer ESL test. This test gives you an opportunity to show how effectively you can develop and express your ideas in writing. A brief statement will be presented, followed by an assignment that relates to the statement. You should respond to the assignment by writing an essay in which you develop your point of view. You will be given up to one hour to work on it. You should support your position with appropriate reasoning and examples. The position you take will not influence your score. Your essay will be given a holistic score that represents how clearly and effectively you expressed your position. The following four characteristics of writing will be considered.

Word Use - The extent to which you are able to use a wide range of words and phrases accurately.

Sentence Use - The extent to which you are able to use a variety of sentence patterns with both independent and dependent clauses.

Grammar - The extent to which you are able to express ideas using grammatically correct English.

Organization and Development - The extent to which you are able to focus on the assigned topic and to develop ideas clearly.

Sample Prompt

Passage:

A woman recently received an inheritance of \$25 million from an unknown, distant relative. She cannot decide what to do: spend it, save it, or give most of it away.

Assignment:

If you suddenly received a large sum of money, what would you do with it?

Sample Essays:

There are descriptions on the following pages of each of the six WritePlacer ESL score points followed by two sample essays that were assigned the indicated score. Annotations are provided for each essay explaining why the essay was given the score it received. Studying these sample essays and the accompanying annotations will point out the elements considered during the scoring process.

Description of Score of 1

An essay in this category demonstrates little competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English. The writing sample exhibits a simplistic expression of ideas and little to no development or organization. The writing sample exhibits a very limited range and variety of simple words and word phrases. Frequent errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling obscure meaning. The writing sample is typically characterized by short, choppy, simple sentences. The writing sample exhibits little or no control of grammatical forms. Sentence punctuation is omitted or used incorrectly.

Below are sample essays that received a score of 1. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

Sample Essay #1 – Score of 1

If I suddenly received a large sum of money. One first thing I'm give some money help for children hospital, I am helping get well and happy. Because I think they are happy me happy too, then after that I am come my country. Because my country have a lot of poor people need helping.

They are need food and healthy. And the last think I would like to travel around the world helping poor people them neee. That all my decide.

Annotations

This writing sample contains a basic attempt to organize details (One first thing . . . then after that And the last think), but development is list-like and demonstrates a simplistic expression of ideas. Frequent errors in word selection and word forms obscure meaning (I'm give some money help . . . they are happy me happy too . . . I am come my country), and the writing sample exhibits little control of grammatical forms (Because my country have a lot of poor people need helping. They are need food and healthy). Exhibiting little competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample receives a score of 1.

Sample Essay #2 – Score of 1

If i suddenly received a large sum of money, I gave most of it away. I gave most of money for the people that they need this money. Someone that don't have job, or he or she can't do job, because he or she is sick. They can use the money for their life. Their children can go to school, in cold weather can wear warm clothes, they can eat good foods.

If i suddenly received a large sum of money, I can spend one part of my money to my friends that they need money to do everything that they want. they can give me my money later, or when they don't need my money.

Annotations

Demonstrating little competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample exhibits a simplistic expression of ideas and little development or organization. A very limited range of vocabulary results in vague ideas that provide minimal understanding (They can use the money for their life . . . they can eat good foods. . . they need money to do everything that they want). There is little control of grammatical forms. Multiple errors in sentence punctuation, including a fragment (Someone that don't have job, or he or she can't do job, because he or she is sick) reveal little control of sentence use. This writing sample earns a score of 1.

Description of Score of 2

An essay in this category demonstrates limited competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English. The writing sample exhibits rudimentary development of ideas with an inconsistent ability to express ideas clearly in an organized pattern or with sufficient supporting details. The writing sample exhibits inconsistent competency in word use containing commonly used words and word phrases. Frequent errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling often obscure meaning. The writing sample exhibits inconsistent control of sentence use, with some evidence of control of simple sentences. Commas and periods may be used to mark sentence boundaries, although there are many errors. Minimal attempts to coordinate sentences and to use subordinate clauses may be evident. Errors in grammatical forms are numerous. Below are sample essays that received a score of 2. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

Sample Essay #1 – Score of 2

If I would receive a large sum of money, that lots of things I want to do. As a student, I want to get more and more knowledge and look around the world, so I wish I can study abroad, to know different culture of some countries, that I must need a large sum of money to support my study plan!

Of course \$25 million are a large sum of money, except help me to study plan, I could do other things. I think many people will use these money to buy cars, houses, ... and so on, but I don't agree with these are good ideas. If you only use money but don't make more and more money, that one day, most of your money will be spent out. I have a future plan. I would find a company, at the first it must a developing company and it have a huge developing space. That I will use my money to give it some help. In the future when I have finished my study plan, I think I could get more money and use these money, maybe I can build a company by myself. I'm not only see one \$25 million!

In fact, I always consider the money is a tool, it used to help me to get my each purpose. I'm a person, my life is the "running". When I make out a dream, soon I have a next dream. At the last you will find that you get your dream, the money only is a number! I think I will give all of my money to many poor areas in the world, use my power to help as more as possible people get their dreams.

Annotations

This writing sample demonstrates rudimentary development of ideas and inconsistent competency in word use (I'm a person, my life is the "running" At the last you will find that you get your dream, the money only is a number!). The first body paragraph contains an attempt to focus on the writer's plan to invest the inheritance in a "developing company"; however, the explanation contains frequent errors in word selection and word forms that often obscure meaning (Of course \$25 million are a large sum of money, except help me to study plan, I could do other things). Commas and periods are used to mark sentence boundaries, but there are many errors (As a student, I want to get more and more knowledge and look around the world, so I wish I can study abroad, to know different culture of some countries, that I must need a large sum of money to support my study plan!). Exhibiting limited competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample receives a score of 2.

Sample Essay #2 – Score of 2

If I suddenly receive a large sum of money, I can't decide easily, neither. Like, when I go shopping many things look good, so I want to buy all of them. But I have too much money, I would hesitate and couldn't decide.

ok, I got plans with it.

First of all, I will deposit half of it. I think bank is safe place. And I will buy ticket for going to Europe. I have to reserve hotel, too. (I want to go especially London)

I want to take trip as long as possible.

And I go to shopping mall, I will buy gift for my family, friends and many things for trip.

If I have enough money to buy house and car, I will buy that. And I will held a big party in my new house, or reserve convention room. I can't forget famous band.

Before going to Europe, I will give some money to my family. (I think my dad will buy many things for fishing and climbing, mom will save that money, my sister will buy clothes, brother will buy computer and games. No wonder.)

At last, I send some money to poor family with no name.

And then, I will go to air port to have a great time in Europe.

How about my plan??

If you have a plan better than mine, tell me.

I will think about yours.

Annotations

This writing sample displays limited competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English. A haphazard arrangement of details reveals an inconsistent ability to express ideas clearly in an organized pattern (I want to take trip as long as possible. And I go to shopping mall). Frequent errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling (recieve, freinds, famouce) often obscure meaning. Although some minimal attempts to coordinate sentences are evident, errors in grammatical forms are numerous (If I suddenly recieve a large sum of money, I can't decide easily, neither. . . . but I have too much money, I would hesitate and could'nt decide). This writing sample merits a score of 2.

Description of Score of 3

An essay in this category demonstrates emerging competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English. The writing sample exhibits an emerging use of paragraphs and topic sentences, while it may lack overall focus and development. The writing sample exhibits an emerging use of complex vocabulary. Errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling sometimes obscure meaning. The writing sample exhibits an emerging use of complex sentences but with distracting errors in word order and punctuation. The writing sample exhibits emerging control of grammatical forms, such as verb tense, with varied and numerous errors.

Below are sample essays that received a score of 3. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

Sample Essay #1 – Score of 3

If I suddenly receive a large sum of money which is my dream, first, I'll organise a big party. I'll invite all my cosins and freinds and I'll buy them a lot off things. The second thing I'll do is to buy a housse and especially a car for my husband. Than I'll pass to the most important project. As me and my husband are doctors in our country, we can't exercise here in USA. in fact, I'm able to spend all my money to release this dream. To do this, we have to learn english very well, because we must have a hight level in english to hope to pass the test to take residency. So,we'll registrate in the most serious schools and offer the most interesting books. When our english is too good, we'll start to prepare the medical exam. This one is very difficult,so during this preparation we could not work,so I'll reserve a sum of money especially for shopping, and medical cares until the day of the exam. Of course medical school are very expensive. Registrations only need a lot off money, don't forget books which are expensive too. But I'm ready to spend all my money until the last cent to become a doctor in USA. If we'll pass this exam, beore we'll start residency we'll need a rest,so I'll buy two tickets for me and my husband to visit our parents. After this, my husband will continue his studies and we'll try to have a baby for who I'll offer beautifull things and I'll spend with him a nice time. When he will be three hears old I continue my studies.

Annotations

The writer spends the bulk of the essay outlining a plan to "become a doctor in USA," exhibiting an emerging ability to focus and to organize ideas; however, errors in word selection and word forms weaken development and sometimes obscure meaning (As me and my husband are doctors in our country, we can't exercise here in USA. in fact, I'm able to spend all my money to release this dream. . . . So, we'll registrate in the most serious schools and offer the most interesting books). The writing sample demonstrates an emerging use of complex sentences, but distracting errors in word order and punctuation occur (After this, my husband will continue his studies and we'll try to have a baby for who I'll offer beautifull things and I'll spend with him a nice time). Varied and numerous errors in grammatical forms also occur (This one is very difficult, so during this preparation we could not work medical school are very expensive If we'll pass this exam). This writing sample merits a score of 3.

Sample Essay #2 – Score of 3

If Someday i recive a large sum of money like the woman of the exmple. One of the first things i would do is to take a nice trip to Europe and Know all the historical places. It Would take a really long time but it's worthy.

After travel over europe My Second Choice would be to get a really nice guitar gear. Lots of new Music Equipment. And play like a freak for a couple of years. Use money to have a nice OWN Studio and do some nice recordings.

When i achive the mini-musical adventure i would do some business for sure. To be more specific i would be really pleased being inversionsit. One of my first invest would be in Telecommunications Commanys and liquor enterprises too. Winnos and Internet obsesives will exist almost forever(HHAHHAHA). Nice money on those Markets.

If those three points come true it would be a plseasure to become an Philathropist Help People of the world with bizarre diseases. People suffering of Hunger. I think when you have nothing to care about in your persola life you start to care about others people way of living... Am I right????(HAHA). I would like to save some dolphins too..NAH..No way. I think I wouldn't be a nice philanthropist. But i would give it a try 100% Sure!

Then after all those no-sense ideas i would like to re-join Musical Studys. To know some more of my beloved art Music especifically guitar. I woulb be composing all day long and studying how to handle Harmonies in every way it culd be possible. Finally i would dedicate all posible time to teach my kids how to do a relationship with music and real life...thats a big bizarre issue you gotta believe me guys!

Well those are the basic ideas that comes to my mind. I think most of it are dreams of childhood but who isn't still a child on his own mind most of the day? I think everyone of us have a kid in our brain but we have to know how to control him perhaps i cant control him much. I think many of us were dreaming at 10yo with being A SuperSports-Star. This childhood dream keeps me awake many nights thinking in how to become a Football Super Heroe it never happened but i still remember with some melancholy. I think i have nothisg to add here now im leaving. See you good luck.

Annotations

This writing sample exhibits an emerging use of paragraphs and topic sentences (If those three points come true it would be a plseasure to become an Philathropist Then after all those no-sense ideas i would like to re-join Musical Studys). A weak overall focus and cursory development of subtopics prevent the reader from gaining a thorough understanding of the subject. Although there is an emerging use of complex vocabulary, errors in word selection and spelling sometimes obscure meaning (When i achive the mini-musical adventure To be more specific i would be really pleased being inversionsit). Distracting errors in punctuation occur (After travel over europe My Second Choice would be to get a really nice guitar gear. Lots of new Music Equipment. . . . Use money to have a nice OWN Studio and do some nice recordings), but an emerging control of grammatical forms is evident. Demonstrating an emerging competency in the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample earns a score of 3.

Description of Score of 4

An essay in this category demonstrates moderate control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English. The writing sample exhibits moderate control of focus, organization, and supporting details, with a sense of audience awareness. The writing sample exhibits evidence of the use of a prewriting strategy. The writing sample exhibits moderate control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary but with some distracting errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling. The writing sample exhibits moderate control of complex and varied sentence structure. The writing sample exhibits moderate control of grammatical forms. Repetitive errors in word order, punctuation, and other aspects of grammar are distracting but may not interfere with comprehension.

Below are sample essays that received a score of 4. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

Sample Essay #1 – Score of 4

If i suddenly recieve a large sum of money i would do three things with it. First, i will give a part of it to the charity. Second, i will buy a house for my family. Third, i will save a part of it for me so that i can start my own business when i am ready.

First, i will give a part of it to the charity so that they could help the poor people. I believe that if i help them god will help me. I have seen the life of poor people, they don't have good clothes, they don't have enough food to eat. They live in slums. When poor people get sick they don't get the best medication. I will help those poor people by paying a part of my money. So that they could have enough food to eat and good clothes to wear. They could have the medication when they get sick.

Second, i will buy a house for my family. We live in an apartment and there is not enough space for us to keep our things. We cannot even speak loud and cannot listen to music loud. we cannot cook outside the apartment, we cannot play in front of the door. We cannot have a dish outside on our air conditioner. In our house we will be able to almost any thing we want. We can listen to music as loud as we want, we can speak loud, we can play and cook in the backyard of our house, we can have a dish on the roof of our house.

Third, i will save a part of it for me so that i can start my own business when i am ready. I will go to an expensive college and get the best education which i will need to start my business. I can make a lot more money if i start my own business than working on a job for another company. I will also be my own boss. I don't have to listen to anybody else or there will be nobody to give orders to me. I will become a lot richer than before if i start my own business. I will be able to give jobs to a lot of people who need them.

Finally, if i suddenly recieve a large sum of money i will do three things. First i will give a part of it to the charity. Second, i will buy a house for my family. Third i will save a part of it for myself, so that i can start my own business when i am ready.

Annotations

This writing sample exhibits moderate control of focus, organization, and supporting detail. The response displays evidence of the use of a prewriting strategy by laying out a simple but clear organizational plan in the introduction (First, i will give a part of it to the charity. Second, i will buy a house for my family. Third, i will save a part of it for me so that i can start my own business when i am ready). The writer follows through with this plan in the body of the response, including topic sentences at the beginning of each paragraph. Some supporting details, however, are only loosely connected (We cannot even speak loud and cannot listen to music loud. we cannot cook outside the apartment, we cannot play in front of the door). The writing sample demonstrates moderate control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary (I will go to an expensive college and get the best education which i will need to start my business), but some distracting errors in word selection and word forms occur (I will help those poor people by paying a part of my money. . . . we will be able to almost any thing I don't have to listen to anybody else or there will be nobody to give orders to me). Control of sentences is uneven; the response demonstrates an ability to correctly form basic structures but contains few attempts at more challenging constructions. Syntactic repetition lacks purpose, leading to an occasionally monotonous quality to the writing (We cannot even speak loud, we cannot cook, we cannot play). Repetitive errors in punctuation (I have seen the life of poor people, they don't have good clothes, they don't have enough food to eat) are distracting but do not interfere with comprehension. Displaying moderate control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample receives a score of 4.

Sample Essay #2 – Score of 4

Many people would spend all the money to theirself if they get a chance to have it. But If I get to have a large amount of the money, I will do soemthing different from other people. If I receive a large amount of the money I would save some but give half of them to my family or to my parents.

The reason why I want to save it is because, first, I can use them for later. If I have to use the money for buying a presents or have to pay for my college money I can use the money and pay it. That way I do not need to ask my parents for the money and make others think that I do not have any money to myself.

Second, I can save them for emergency reason. Just incase my house gets on fire or my car gets broke down or somebody steals something from me, I can use the money to get a new house or fix the car or reward a person who finds the thief.

Third, I can use them for my self. If I want to go to a vacation, I can use the money for the plane ticket or to pay the train to go to any country that I would like to visit. In addition, I can spend the money for entertainment.

I always wanted to go to broadway show. If I get the money I would take my friends to New York and watch the show.

But I want to give the half of money to my parents or to my family. Becasue If my grand parents gets sick or they gets into the accident and do not have enough money to pay the hospital bill, I can certenley help them by giving the money that I have. Also If one of my family memeber want to open a store or wants to go to a vacation or to trip with their friends, I can give some money to make them do what they wants to do.

Most people says that a person would do anything to get a money or if they have a money. Receiving a large amount of money would make me think lot of stuff or makes me do lot of things. But If I have a large amount of money, I am not going to have all of them to myself. I am going to share my joy and luck with people that I care about. So again, I will give some to my family so they can help theirselves with it and have some for myself and enjoy what I have.

Annotations

This writing sample establishes a focus on how the writer would “do soemthing different” with a large inheritance and exhibits evidence of a prewriting strategy, demonstrating moderate control of organization. Each body paragraph begins with a topic sentence that introduces a distinct reason why the money should be saved or given away. Within paragraphs, supporting details clarify the topic by adding depth and specificity (I can spend the money for entertainment. I always wanted to go to a broadway show. If I get the money I would take friends to New York and watch the show). Although the writing sample displays moderate control of complex and varied sentence structure (Just incase my house gets on fire or my car gets broke down or somebody steals something from me, I can use the money to get a new house or fix the car or reward a person who finds the thief), some distracting errors in word selection and word forms occur (spend all the money to theirself . . . pay for my college money . . . make them do what they wants to do). While there are repetitive errors in grammatical forms (Most people says that a person would do anything to get a money or if they have a money. . . If I have a large amount of money, I am not going to have all of them to myself), these errors do not interfere with comprehension. Exhibiting moderate control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample earns a score of 4.

Description of Score of 5

An essay in this category demonstrates consistent control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English. The writing sample exhibits consistent control of focus, organization, and supporting details, with a sense of audience awareness. The writing sample exhibits the use of a prewriting strategy with some analytical development. The writing sample exhibits consistent control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary, but there may be a few distracting errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling. The writing sample generally exhibits consistent control of sophisticated and varied sentence structure. The writing sample exhibits consistent control of grammatical forms. Some errors in word order, punctuation, and other aspects of grammar may be distracting but do not interfere with comprehension.

Below are sample essays that received a score of 5. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

Sample Essay #1 – Score of 5

If I suddenly received a large sum of money, at first I wouldn't know what to do with it. Maybe the first thing that would come to my mind would be to spend it all on those who I care for and me. But then it would probably take me a while before deciding what to do with it. I wouldn't know what to spend it on or who to give it to. I would definitely go crazy. But after I'm calm, I would sit down and make up my mind and decide if I would keep the money and buy all of the things that I have always dreamed of buying, or if I would just give it all away to help all of the poor people around the world.

But if I was to keep the money, I would buy my mom a huge luxurious house. This house would have an enormous kitchen just like my mom would like it. The house would have to have six bedrooms and five bathrooms, a big living-room and a big dining-room. It would also need to have a big back yard, because there would need to be enough space for a swimming pool. Then after I would buy my mom, my sister, my daughter and myself a brand new car.

Then I would pay for all of my sister's, my daughter and my college expenses. Then we would go shopping, we would have to travel to New York California and Miami to get all the latest things in fashion.

Then we would go to Mexico, travel all Mexico starting from the north and ending with the south. Then go to Italy I've always dreamed about going to Italy and while I'm there probably buy a house over there too, I would buy it in Rome or in Venice. Then come back to Reno live at my mom's huge house go to college watch my daughter grow and give all the rest of the money left to my mom. That way she wouldn't need to work ever again. But let's be realistic it would be nice having and doing all of those fun things, but there are people who would need the money more than I do. People who are dying cause of hunger, kids who don't have a warm house or even the basic stuff that we have like clothes and shoes. I would create a foundation specially to help those poor people all around the world. I would buy an airplane so I could personally take all of the things people donate. I would like to help all the poor people around the world. I would take the cane food, clothes, money and would teach them how read and write. Ofcourse I would need the help of other people because I couldn't do it buy myself. With all of the money that I would have I would build schools, houses and hospitals for them. My goal would be not to have poor people all around the world, it would be a great satisfaction to accomplish that.

When you do or buy things for yourself it feels good but I've learned that when you do or buy things for other people you get a greater satisfaction. That is why I would rather spend all of the money on those poor people, I would love to help them out. It would be better to use the money for a good cause such as this one. And I think that our world would be different if we would all help out those people just a little bit. But this is who I spend the money on, if I suddenly received a large sum of money.

Annotations

The writer presents a compelling dilemma in the opening paragraph, wondering whether it is preferable to “buy all of the things that I have always dreamed of” or “give it all away to help all of the poor people around the world.” Subsequent body paragraphs display a consistent control of focus through an exploration of each option. Initially, the writer imagines what it would be like to keep the money, supplying specific details that help the reader visualize the trappings of luxury (an enormous kitchen, six bedrooms and five bathrooms, . . . enough space for a swimming pool). In the third body paragraph, however, an effective transition (But let's be realistic) shifts the focus to a discussion of how the money could be better spent helping those who “need the money more than I do.” This analytical development builds to the writer's ultimate conclusion that spending money on those in need provides greater fulfillment. Consistent control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary is evident (luxurious house, create a foundation, great satisfaction), though a few distracting errors in word forms and spelling occur (the cane food, buy myself). The writing sample generally exhibits consistent control of sophisticated and varied sentence structure (When you do or buy things for yourself it feels good but I've learned that when you do or buy things for other people you get a greater satisfaction). While there are some distracting errors in punctuation and other aspects of grammar, these errors do not interfere with

comprehension. Exhibiting consistent control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample merits a score of 5.

Sample Essay #2 – Score of 5

If I recieved a large sum of money, for instance \$25 million! I would send a portion of it to the countries that were hit by the biggest natural disaster recorded in the history of the world. After that i would ofcourse put some of that money into my bank account or i would plan on opening a small business. finally i would send the money that is left over to my country pakistan to the poor people over there.

Outof \$25 million i would send \$5 million to the countries where the tsunami hit to help the countries recover from this tragic event. The country can supply needs for the citizens such as food and shelter with the extra money they will be recieving. The money can also help the cost to rebuild the vocationing places that were also destroyed by the tsunami.

Well after the money is sent to the countries i would invest the the \$10 million into a small business that will keep my money comming in. A smart man always invests to double or even triple the ammount of his profits. I would buy a small franchise such as subway or a Burger King to keep the money flowing.

Ofcourse i am also going to put some money in the bank to have a safe place just incase the business doesnt function probably. I would put \$5 million in the bank.

Finally with the \$5 million that i will still have left over i would send that money to my country to help the poor make a living. My country which is pakistan has the largest population of lower or even no class citizens. I am one of the lucky ones who has a golden oppurtunity to come here and make something of my self. so i would send the money over there to support the poor and provide them with food and the basic essentials of life

In conclusion, these are the three things I would do if I suddenly recieved a large sum of money. Maybe I will donate a small portion of it to ST. Peter's college and than i can have my name on a big wall in of the campuses, wouldnt that be something?

Annotations

This writing sample exhibits consistent control of focus, organization, and supporting details and displays the use of a prewriting strategy with some analytical development (Finally with the \$5 million that i will still have left over i would send that money to my country . . . I am one of the lucky ones who has a golden oppurtunity to come here and make something of my self. so i would send the money over there to support the poor). In the introduction, the writer lays out three ideas for how to use 25 million dollars (providing disaster relief, opening a small business, and aiding the poor in Pakistan). Subsequent paragraphs elaborate on each of these ideas, conveying a sense of planning. There is consistent control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary (A smart man always invests to double or even triple the ammount of his profits. I would buy a small franchise . . . to keep the money flowing), but a few distracting errors in word selection and spelling occur (to rebuild the vocationing places). The writing sample generally displays consistent control of sophisticated and varied sentence structure; consistent control of grammatical forms is also evident. Some distracting errors in word order, punctuation, and other aspects of grammar occur (finally I would send the money that is left over to my country pakistan to the poor people over there), but these errors do not interfere with comprehension. This writing sample exhibits consistent control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English and earns a score of 5.

Description of Score of 6

An essay in this category demonstrates strong control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English. The writing sample exhibits strong control of focus, organization, and supporting details, with a sense of audience awareness. The writing sample exhibits an insightful and engaging expression of ideas. The writing sample exhibits strong control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary, with infrequent errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling. The writing sample generally exhibits strong control

of sophisticated and varied sentence structure, with few errors. The writing sample exhibits strong control of grammatical forms. Some errors in word order, punctuation, and other aspects of grammar do not interfere with comprehension.

Below are sample essays that received a score of 6. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

Sample Essay #1 – Score of 6

The question is "What would I do if I suddenly received a large sum of money?" For myself this question will not be hard to answer.

I have been married for 16 years and began having children at the age of 20. I thought that I was mature enough to handle everthing that came along with that responsibility, boy was I wrong. I forgot about one of the most important parts of raising children and that is the financial responsibility. Ever since getting married and having children life, financially, has been one long struggle. Everything from food and shelter to enrolling kids in extra activities to driving used vehicles. Everything costs money. Whoever said that money doesn't make you happy was and idiot. I have everything but that.

If I wass to suddenly receive a large sum of money I know exactly what I would do. First and foremost, a vacation has been well deserved for a long time. I would take my family of four (and two dogs) on a fun, warm, exciting vacation to Disney World for two weeks and then to Cancun for another two weeks while I thought everthing through. After the vacation I would then begin ordering all the material things we have ever wanted, within reason. These would of course be a new house, around 1800 square feet fully furnished with a huge kitchen.

Then for sure we would be able to have a fully stocked kitchen. My kids could have their friends over to eat anytime without having to worry about budgeting the food for the month. We would have new furniture and everything would match. My husband and kids would then not be embarrassed to invite their friends over to entertain. Then of course we could have new vehicles, with warranties, so that we could take our family out to the beach and not be concerned whether or not the car would make it there and whether or not we could afford the gas. We have to budget that also.

The thing that would most excite me about this huge sum of money is that we could all get the educations we want and deserve. I am thirty six years old and just going back to school to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. This is a very scarey time for me but the scariest thing is the amount of sacraficing my family will have to do financially. The reason we have agreed on this sacrafice is so that I can get a job that can help support my children so they can get an education. I don't want them to have to take out student loans and start out in debt. This is just something I feel strongly about.

After all our needs and some of our wants are taken care of, I would then begin to help outside family and specific charities that I believe in.

I would love to donate money to undr privelidged children who do not get the opportunity to play in extra activities outside of school, such as hockey and baseball. These activities were our saving grace. They have kept us busy as a family and they keep my kids off the street looking for trouble. Their time is occupied by these extra activities. I believe these activities, whatever they are, help build childrens characters and teach them structure and discipline. Not enough money is given to these children to help out with equipment and out of town tournaments, so this is where the money could come in handy. In order for us to pay for these extras for my children I deliver the Leader Post every morning at 4:30 am. Not everyone can do this, so this is where I would love to help.

I believe that coming into a large sum of money at this time would be beneficial for my family because of everything we have gone through and learned about life. For other people who haven't been so lucky this money could be a down fall for them. I have heard of such horror stories.

In conclusion I would like to say that perhaps everthing happens in life for a reason. Will I ever come into a large sum of money? Probably not but if I ever did trust me I would not have a problem spending it, after all you only live once.

Annotations

Demonstrating strong control of focus, organization, and supporting details, this writing sample exhibits an insightful and engaging expression of ideas (I thought that I was mature enough to handle everything that came along with that responsibility, boy was I wrong. I forgot about one of the most important parts of raising children and that is the financial responsibility). Consistent accuracy in idiomatic expression demonstrates a strong awareness of audience and purpose (boy was I wrong. . . . our saving grace come in handy horror stories). Support throughout the writing is specific and relevant with carefully selected details that enhance understanding (two dogs, 1800 square feet, Licensed Practical Nurse, the Leader Post). Transitional phrases within paragraphs strengthen organization by reinforcing connections between sentences (First and foremost, After the vacation, These would of course be, Then for sure). The writing sample displays strong control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary (I believe these activities, whatever they are, help build childrens characters and teach them structure and discipline), although errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling do occur (undr privelidged). The writing sample generally exhibits strong control of sophisticated and varied sentence structure, with few errors (I don't want them to have to take out student loans and start out in debt. . . . After all our needs and some of our wants are taken care of, I would then begin to help outside family and specific charities that I believe in). There is also strong control of grammatical forms (I believe that coming into a large sum of money at this time would be beneficial for my family because of everything we have gone through and learned about life). Exhibiting strong control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this writing sample merits a score of 6.

Sample Essay #2 – Score of 6

There are lots of thing that we can do with a large sum of money in this world. We can spend them for ourselves or spend them for others. Since my parents are busy working to make a linving for thier four children, and I am interested in vulteeing, I would spend that large amount of money for my family and volunteering.

First, I would use some of money for my family to ease my parents burden by paying tuitions and loans and to show my thanks for them by making family trip. Since my family has four children who are all enrolling certain kinds f schools, it is hard to paying all educational fees while they need other money for the necessities in daily lives.

Moreover, as I am studying as an international student outside my home country, it requires much more money, even twice as much money as usual students spend for their tuitions and living things in my home country, Japan. So it would be quite helpful for my parents to pay tuitions and fees of all thier four children. Also, I would use that money for loans of our house. Seven years ago, my parents bought a house in a city, which is convenient or children to go to schools, and which is comfortable for my entire family to live in. The loan will not be compled paying even my parents becaome old enough to retire thier jobs. It could harden thier lives since they have to pay for house loans after finish and retire thier jobs. Therefore, I would like to use the money for paying house loans to ease the burden of my parents so that they can seek thier interests and hobbliies to enrich their lives. To add to that, I'd like to spend that money to show my thanks to my parents and grandparents. They have been busy working to make a living for themselves and for thier families. They've even sacrificed thier times for their jobs, in other words, they've been trying hard to make our lives better by working extra hours. Because of that, I reeaaly like to show my gratitude for them by making family trips, where they can relax and enjoy thier own time.

Next, I would like to spend that money for volunteering by donating and using them to join some volunteer works. I would donate part of them for the organizations like NGO, Red Cross, WHO and so forth to help people in the third world. Today, every single days, there are hundreds of thousands people dying from disease, starvation, mulnutrition and other reasons caused by poberty and lack of education. I belive that those money I donate would help improve thier lives by educating them, constructing sanitary facilities, giving them medical care, and providing them foods. Also, not just donate money but I'd like to use them to join those works as a volunteer. I want to actually contribute those works. But, it costs lots of money if I

go to abroad to help people such as Sudan, Philipin, Neparlle and Indnesia. So, I'd like to use it for my own experiences of volunteering.

In those ways, I would like to use a large amount of money if I recieve it. I would spend it on my family and volunteering, in other words, on private concerns and social matters.

Annotations

Displaying an insightful and engaging expression of ideas, this essay exhibits strong control of focus, organization, and supporting details. The writing provides considerable depth of support, particularly in the first body paragraph where substantial development supplies thorough information about the predicament of the writer's parents. In addition, skillful transitions and varied sentence structures enable a smooth progression of ideas (Moreover, as I am studying as an international student outside my home country, it requires much more money, even twice as much money as usual students spend for their tuitions and living things in my home country, Japan. So it would be quite helpful for my parents to pay tuitions and fees of all their four children). Despite some errors in word selection, word forms, and spelling (compled paying; join those works), there is strong control of a wide and complex range of vocabulary (. . . there are hundreds of thousands of people dying from disease, starvation, mulnutrition and other reasons I belive that those money I donate would help improve thier lives by educating them, constructing sanitary facilities, giving them medical care, and providing them foods). The essay also demonstrates strong control of grammatical forms, and while it has errors in word order, punctuation, and other aspects of grammar (Since my family has four children who are all enrolling certain kinds f schools, it is hard to paying all educational fees while they need other money for the necessities in daily lives), these errors do not interfere with comprehension. Exhibiting strong control of the elements of on-demand essay writing in English, this essay receives a score of 6.