



Sample #2 of a successful Score Verification Request Grade 8

A request for score verification includes the follow three items:

1. A completed Score Verification Form – available through the NDE web site.
2. A copy of the student paper for consideration
3. The districts justification for request for change. This should focus on the Domain or Domains that the district would like reconsidered. References to the student paper should be specific.

The verification process is appropriate only for very specific, not general, scoring issues. In addition, verifications are designed only for score that fall below the cut score (Not Met).

The results for Sample #2 Grade 8 are as follows:

Co. District #					
Building #					
Student NSSRS #			Grade		8
Appeal Scoring	1	2	3	4	Scale Score
Domain Scores:	5	6	5	5	38
Appeal Determination	6	6	6	5	42

All references to school and/or student have been removed from this example.



Nebraska Department of Education
STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT
NeSA Writing Assessment

2014 SCORE VERIFICATION FORM

(This form must accompany each review requested.)

This form is a request for a reconsideration of a NeSA-Writing Assessment student score. Only the total score may be verified. Please attach a written explanation of the request for reconsideration and a copy of the essay in question. The verification process is appropriate **only** for very specific, not general, scoring issues. In addition, verifications are designed **only** for scores that fall below the cut score.

NOTE: The verification process will occur only during the preliminary data audit window in the spring of 2014.

The deadline for submission is May 2, 2014.

If submitting a student essay, the following information MUST accompany the student essay. This information is contained in the student information label that is provided for each assessment booklet. You may affix a copy of the student label here or complete the information:

STUDENT INFORMATION		DISTRICT INFORMATION	
<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>District Name</u>	<u>County District #</u>
<u>NSSRS ID#</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>School ID #</u>
<u>Student's Composite Score</u>		<u>District Assessment Contact</u>	<u>DAC Phone</u>
		<u>DAC Email</u>	
		<u>Verification Submitted by:</u> DAC Other (name) _____	

Send score verification form and documentation to NDE by May 2, 2014 by one of the following methods, NDE will confirm receipt by email.

Mail to: Dr. Ed Foy, Statewide Assessment, Nebraska Department of Education
 P O Box 94987, Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

Fax to: 402-742-2319

Scan/email to: nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov

Contact NDE if you have questions - 402 471-2495 or nde.stateassessment@nebraska.gov

2/8/13

NeSA Writing Responses

Ideas/Content (35%)	_____	Overall <div style="border: 2px solid black; width: 50px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	State ID: _____
Organization (25%)	_____		Test Completed: 2013/01/31 at 11:00 AM
Voice/Word Choice (20%)	_____		School: MIDDLE SCHOOL
Sentence Fluency/Conventions (20%)	_____		Date of Printing: 2013/02/ 8 at 03:45 PM

Student Response:

NeSA Writing Test—DraftHour:03

01-31-2013

Grandparent's House

Even though I enjoy many places, the most enjoyable one is my grandparent's house. The different sights, smells, and textures are three main reasons why my grandparent's house is enjoyable

One main intellect is all the different sights you can see. Down the driveway is a gigantic , mansion-looking house. Surrounding it is miles and miles of woods, parts chopped down for crops. Tall trees seem to be in a race to touch the sky towering over the smaller trees to see who will be the first one t o touch the clouds. The many farm animals trot around waiting for their mid-day meal of grain and hay. At night, the blazing stars wink as you go to bed.

Another reason is the divergent smells. The scent of sweet tea flows out the open window. The aroma of morning coffee with eggs and bacon swirl throughout the house. When dinner time rolls around, the scent of BBQed chicken and mouth-watering steak could be smelled from miles away. In the basement would rise a loving scent of gunpowder, creeping under your nose. The wiff of a freshwater creek creeps up you nose.

The last wit is the irregular textures. Freshly mowed grass tickles you as you roll around in it. In the woods, the rough treebark opens their arms for an inviting hug. The driveway consists of gravel, which makes it fun to run down, barefoot, as the tiny rocks sting in a delighted way. Afterwards, you soak in the creek as the smooth water dances around your feet. A fuzzy peach tickles your hand as you go in for dinner.

My grandparent's house is obviously a place I most enjoy.

We believe that the ideas/content was inappropriately scored. We believe 's paper is a 6 instead of a 5. The picture of what the writer was saying was clear and vivid. For example:

- Tall trees to seem to be in a race to touch the sky towering over the small trees . . .
- . . . many farm animals trot around waiting for their mid-day meal . . .
- Freshly mowed grass tickles you . . .
- . . . rough tree bark opens their arms. . .

All these excerpts help paint a visual of the grandparent's farm. The content is clear, focused, and does not stray off from the intended subject. The essay deals specifically with what a person sees at the farm, smells while being there, and has an opportunity to feel when experiencing it.

Sensory details are numerous since this is how the student organized her essay. Many of these sensory details help create the strong picture of what is being discussed. Other examples of sensory details are:

- At night, the blazing stars wink as you go to bed.
- The scent of sweet tea flows out the open window.
- The aroma of morning coffee with eggs and bacon swim throughout the house.
- In the basement would rise a loving sense of gunpowder. . .
- . . . as tiny rocks sting in a delighted way . . .
- . . . smooth water dances around your feet . . .

Since the essay was clearly focused and numerous sensory details were evident, we strongly believe that this essay was a 4 for ideas and content.

We believe this essay is also a 7 instead of a 5 for Voice and Word Choice. The essay is filled with figurative language, strong varied word choice, and engaging verbs which bring the reading into the description of the grandparent's farm. Many of the engaging phrases have been listed in the above bullet points for ideas and content, but other examples are:

- . . . driveway is gigantic . . .
- Surrounding it is miles and miles of woods . . .
- . . . farm animals trot . . .
- . . . mid-day meal . . .
- . . . blazing stars wink . . .
- . . . sweet tea flows . . .
- The aroma of morning coffee with eggs and bacon swim throughout the house.
- . . . the scent of BBQed chicken and mouth-watering steak could be smelled from miles away . . .
- . . . would rise a loving scent of gunpowder, creeping under your nose
- The wiff of a freshwater creek . . .

- Freshly mowed grass tickles you as you roll around in it.
- The driveway consists of gravel, which makes it fun to run down, barefoot, as the tiny rocks sting in a delighted way

These many sentences help bring the writing to life and engages the reader. The voice is strong and clear. You get a true sense of who this person is and what they feel for the topic. The voice is not inappropriate, nor limited. In many cases, the essay shows words that express and engage the reader by conveying a strong sense of the writer throughout. The voice is well-suited for the purpose, and the language is varied and effective.