

## Nebraska Department of Education Scoring Guide for Descriptive Writing – Analytic - GRADE 8

	1	2	3	4
<b>IDEAS / CONTENT</b> 35%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The picture of what is being described is unclear.</li> <li>Content has many digressions from the topic.</li> <li>Sensory details are lacking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The picture of what is being described is limited.</li> <li>Content has some digressions from the topic.</li> <li>Sensory details are limited or unrelated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The picture of what is being described is clear.</li> <li>Content is generally focused on the topic.</li> <li>Sensory details are adequate and related.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The picture of what is being described is clear and vivid.</li> <li>Content is well-focused on the topic.</li> <li>Sensory details are numerous and relevant.</li> </ul>
<b>ORGANIZATION</b> 25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking.</li> <li>Pacing is awkward.</li> <li>Transitions are missing or connections are unclear.</li> <li>Paragraphing is ineffective or missing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited.</li> <li>Pacing is somewhat inconsistent.</li> <li>Transitions are repetitious or weak.</li> <li>Paragraphing is irregular.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is functional.</li> <li>Pacing is generally controlled.</li> <li>Transitions are functional.</li> <li>Paragraphing is generally successful.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective.</li> <li>Pacing is well-controlled.</li> <li>Transitions effectively show how ideas connect.</li> <li>Paragraphing is sound.</li> </ul>
<b>VOICE / WORD CHOICE</b> 20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wording is inexpressive and lifeless, conveying little sense of the writer.</li> <li>Voice inappropriate for the purpose and audience.</li> <li>Language is neither specific, precise, nor varied.</li> <li>Few, if any, vivid words or phrases are used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wording is occasionally expressive, conveying a limited sense of the writer.</li> <li>Voice is sometimes inappropriate for the purpose and audience.</li> <li>Language is occasionally specific, precise, and varied.</li> <li>Some vivid words and phrases are used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wording is generally expressive, conveying a sense of the writer.</li> <li>Voice is generally appropriate for the purpose and audience.</li> <li>Language is generally specific, precise, and varied.</li> <li>Adequate vivid words and phrases are used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wording is expressive and engaging, conveying a strong sense of the writer throughout.</li> <li>Voice is well-suited for the purpose and audience throughout.</li> <li>Language is specific, precise, and varied throughout.</li> <li>Numerous vivid words and phrases used effectively.</li> </ul>
<b>SENTENCE FLUENCY / CONVENTIONS</b> 20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sentences seldom vary in length or structure.</li> <li>Phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural.</li> <li>Fragments or run-ons confuse the reader.</li> <li>Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors throughout distract the reader.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sentences occasionally vary in length or structure.</li> <li>Phrasing occasionally sounds unnatural.</li> <li>Fragments or run-ons sometimes confuse the reader.</li> <li>Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors may distract the reader.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sentences generally vary in length or structure.</li> <li>Phrasing generally sounds natural.</li> <li>Fragments and run-ons, if present, do not confuse the reader.</li> <li>Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are usually correct and errors do not distract the reader.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sentences vary in length and structure throughout.</li> <li>Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning.</li> <li>Fragments and run-ons, if present, are intended for stylistic effect.</li> <li>Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct and may be manipulated for stylistic effect.</li> </ul>

