



STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT

GRADE 8 –

NeSA WRITING RUBRIC/SCORING TRAINING

PRACTICE PAPERS

OCTOBER 2013

Writing Topic

Think about a place you enjoy.

What sights, sounds, tastes, smells, textures, or feelings come to your mind?

Write an essay describing this place. Use sensory details so the reader clearly pictures this place and understands why you enjoy it.

The place I enjoy is outside. The outside is fresh. There is lots of places to run around. There is lots of things you can do out side. There are lots of trees to play on. I can ride my bike outside. There are many places to go when you are outside. Like the park. It has lost of things to play on. There are basketball courts to play at. There is lots of space to play football. There are softball feelds. There are tables and benches to sit at. There is a lot of things u can do at the park. The pool it is a fun place. There is a water slide at the pool.

There is lots of smells. The smell of fresh cut grass, flowers. The smell of when it rains. It is fun to play in the rain and af ter it rains it is fun to go play in the mud puddles. The feeling of the mud on your skin. The mud makes your body feel cool and soothing. The mud fights with my sisters and brothers is fun .

When i am outside I feel free . When I am outside I am not closed into a small room. Outside there is lots of sounds. There are sounds of children playing and the birds singing. That is why my favorite place is outside.

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The Football Field

When I am out on the football field or at a football game I can smell the fresh grass or turf. It smells nice and fresh like it was prepared the day before. When I am running on it tearing the grass up will sometimes bring out the fresh smell but on turf that's really hard to do. Turf just smells good no matter what you try to do.

When I am watching a game I can see the players on the field running to get the tackle or running for a touchdown. When I am on the field I see defenders trying their best to tackle me or when I am on defense I see the running back trying to go by. I can see my team mates running on to the field to go in for players that get tired or injured.

I can hear the roaring of the crowd as we walk on to the field. I can hear the cheers coming from the fans and the cheerleaders as the team scores again. When at a football game I can hear all the yelling from the guy next to me or a few rows back.

When on the football field I can feel all the pressure that is on you when you know your team is counting on you. That's not all you feel there is the guy that hits you or you hit them that doesn't feel too good. You also have all that gear on you which can slow your running down because it's so heavy and doesn't always protect you.

The ground under my feet whether it be turf or just plain old grass I will never forget how it feels when I run. I know how to run if the grass is real wet I might slip and fall once or twice but I will most likely stay on my feet because I practice, and that doesn't make you perfect but it does make you better.

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My Bed Room

Imagine walking into a pink and brown privet cave. My bed room is as big as a classroom and is colorful, huge, and clean. It has a very fresh smell to it. You see lots of my favorite things.

First, you see my big bed as big as a feast table. I have a huge dresser with a humungous mirror. I use it to look at my hair. The walls are pink and brown, and are decorated with posters of horses and inspirational sayings.

Second, the smells in my room are wonderful. My room has a Sency candle in it. The smell is called love spell. It smells like no one has been in it before. The smell is very fresh like a new car.

Next, there are a bunch of diffrent textures in my room. My bed feels soft as a new born duckling. When I walk on my carpet it feels like Im walking on a cloud. My door handle on my closet when I open it, it feels like a bar of soap.

Finally, my room makes me feel like I'm in my own world. It is quiet, clean, comfortable,soothing, and smells very fresh. After a long day I look forward to going home and take a nap. I love my room very much. It is definitely my favorite place to enjoy.

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One Day of My Hunting

Buzz! Zzz! Bang! Crackle! And Zip! These are the sounds that I hear at my treestand. Hello! My name 's [redacted] and I am going to tell you about how I am at my tree stand, and how I make my tree stand in my essay. First I will shoot through the way that I set up my tree stand. Then I will scavenger through the way that I hunt in a day. Next I will pop some images into your mind by telling you how to sit by a campfire and rost your dinner. Last I will zip up my essay by telling you how to put away for the hunt and show your big buck off. I hope you enjoy my essay.

Buzz! That is the sound that I hear when I get out into the woods too set up my tree stand. In speaking of tree stands I will tell you how I put up my tree stand. First you find the right tree to set it up in. Then you put it together, and stand it up. Last you have to test it for weight that it can handle. When I get up to the top I feel the tree, because it is usually so georgeous to feel and look at. It smells like fresh sap coming from a sylicone based floor with fresh cut boards. I usually go and get all of my things and swipe the nats and bugs away from me as I get packed to stay for the night.

Zzz! That is the sound that I make while I am sleeping in my stand. I get to sleep until about sunrise, because I don't have any electricity for an alarm clock, so when I see the sun I get up, or when I hear sounds, such as ruffling of the wind against the tree branches, or even an owl or animal making a sound.

Bang! That is the sound that I hear when some one, or even myself is shooting a deer. I get ready in the morning, and I get powder in my shotgun to be ready for any thing. I have a couple extra guns just in case. I am in my stand for about two hours, and then. There it is a nine by seven trophy muelly deer. I got my gun ready, and Bang! I got him. My trophy deer was in my arms ready to get checked out. after I got my deer checked out, I went back to my tree stand to skin, and rost my trophy buck.

Crackle! That is the sound I hear when I am roasting my deer, and it is dark out, so I can't see anything in sight, because of the fire that I am by. I have skinned and picked the meat off of my deer and now I am stuffing and roasting my big buck. I will take the thigh and put it on the fire to cook maybe about twenty minutes at the most, and then the rest will go on the fire, and it will take about one or two hours to get tender, and then to the freezer they will go. After that about a week later cook them on a grill, and have it for dinner.

Zip! That is the sound that I hear when I am packing up for my hunt. Then when I go into town I will show off my trophy buck to the whole town to see. when every one has seen my buck I will go home and unload. If you have a garage I advise you to put your tree stand in there then it is not likely to be stolen if you have a garage door opener. If you have the highest shelf in the garage use it. Put the stand by the wall on the side of the garage door and strap the stand down to keep it from falling from things hitting the wall , or if it can bulg out to fast and fall to the floor of the garage, and hit a car.

I have shot through my first paragragh, and I have scavengered you through the steps, and I have popped images in your mind about how to keep belongings safe from other people, last I told you how to put away your things. I hope you enjoyed my essay.

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Swish. You just made game winning free throw to win the state title in D1 basketball. My favorite place to be is on a basketball floor shooting around, playing a little pick up game in the summer after weightlifting, or playing a game on your school team. In this essay I will tell you why I like to be on the basketball court. First I will bounce pass you into the main reason why I like basketball. Next I will call a time out and explain to you some of the textures, tastes, sights, and hear on the court. Then I will shoot you into some of my feelings for why I like the basketball court and even being out on the floor.

First I will bounce pass you into the main reason why I like to be on the basketball court and why it's my favorite place to be. I play football and run track but there is just something different about basketball. The basketball court is a special place to me because I was basically raised on the court. I watched my brothers and sisters play basketball and I have also liked to play basketball by playing myself.

Next I will call a time out and explain some of the textures, taste, sights, and what you hear when your on the court. There are all kinds of different textures on the court there is the different texture of the ball or of the bottom of your shoe when your trying to get some traction. I will usually be able to taste my mouth peice that I wear for my braces. The different sights of a gym are always shocking, like when is a big game and the stands are packed and people are going crazy over whats going on in the game, because they want there team to win and the refeeres to be fair and not favor one team. As the game starts you might hear the crowd booing a bad call or cheering when you score the first piont or win the jump. You can hear the coach telling you good job, or to box out, rebound, or they're really mad and are yelling at somone on the court playing.

Finally I will shoot into my feeling of the reasons why I like basketball, and being on the basketball floor. In the game of basketball you should never think of anything that happend in school today or that your girlfriend dumped you, you should only think about the game and remember the plays. My feelings for basketball are really strong and I don't like to lose, but everyone has there wins and losses in life, so everbody is bound to lose once. The main reaso n I have so many reasons I have feelings for basketball is that is the only sport I really like, I like football but if i went to a school with only one choice of sprots activities I would choose basketball. If my basketball team would go to state I would try my hardest to help my team out and hopfully win.

In this essay I told you where my favorite place was to be. My feelings of the basketball court, and some sights, tastes and textures. So, wat is your favorite place to be at?

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The place I enjoy most is my bed. Now, your probably thinking that I'm doing this to be funny. See, my room is very small and I have a large bed that is very comfortable. I do all my homework on my bed and that's where I play my guitar and oboe. Also, my dog, Patches, likes to come in and take a nap with me on my bed. My brother and I play games on my bed while our younger two sibilings are taking a nap. Another reason why I like my bed is because I can have four or five friends over and we can all sleep in my bed with each of us having our own space. There are lots of reasons why I like my bed, and it's not just because I sleep in it.

Doing my homework is very important to me. My house is very chaotic and noisy because of my three siblings who like to play and fight a lot. Therefore, it's very hard to concentrate. Homework is very important to my values. To get good grades and get into a good college, I need to try my hardest in school.

Music is my escape from everyday life. It helps me with all the drama in my life. Playing the guitar is my dream and I want to strive in life with my guitar. I earned all the money for my guitar through hard work and it has sentimental values to me. I can't play the guitar in band, so I play the oboe. Being in band gets good scholarships for college. Along with the oboe, I play the flute and clarinet. I also wish to learn to play the violin, alto saxaphone, and drums before I get to college.

I have a dog named Patches and she is a Great Dane. She is only about a year old, but she is huge! I take her on walks everyday and she likes to listen to music on my iPod with me. One time, in the middle of the night, Patches got out of the basement and went into my room. She scared me half to death! After trying to get her to go back into the basement, without success, she ended up sleeping with me. Thankfully, I have a big bed so Patches and I can sleep on the bed together. Patches is very important to me and she is my best friend.

My little brother, Xavier, likes to play games while our younger two sibilings are taking a nap. We sometimes play Go Fish, Life or even Monopoly. Xavier's favorite game is Yahtzee. Yahtzee is a game where you roll five die and try to get things like Small Straights, Large Straights, and if you get all five die one number, it's a Yahtzee! We play this game a lot and Xavier usually wins.

I like to have my firends over a lot. We like to play games, watch movies, and eat ice cream. I don't have a very big living room and there is no extra room where we can hang out. We usually go in my room on the bed. There, we can do almost anything we want. One time, I had a few friends over and we decided to eat Pistachio ice cream. One of my friends didn't eat it all, and we decided to put it away in the morning because we were all tired. In the morning, one of my friends got up and bumped the bowl of melted ice cream all over my bed! My room still smelled like Pistachios, even after I washed my sheets twice!

My bed is very sentimental to me. I like to do my homework, play instruments, take naps with my dog, play games with my brother, and have friends spend the night all on my bed. As you can see, I wasn't trying to be funny when I told you my favorite place was my bed.

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Whats on television?

Alot of people have a favorite comfort zone (place) that they enjoy, well mine is my living room. what could compare to a beautiful living room. The living room is built for you relaxing time or even take a nap.

So lets get started then my living room has a considerable size couch looking in the eye of the television. While your watching your top favorite show/movie put your feet apou a hard coffie table. when the couch is not profitable for you can sit on one of the two chairs there is. Your eyes than attract to the paintings of art witch than glimmer into the light of the lamp. If your that type of person who likes being bear footted (like me) youll love the sweet toch of soft brown carpet of the floor.

Theres plenty of differnt smells from candles that are spred across the room. heres a small portion for you, cherry, orange, grape, lavender, vinnaila. Even when its time for supper you can smell it. Not even your nose out of the elite deal.

My feelings (or some people call connection) is throughout my living room is that it is my serene place of the house. If i wanted I could take a georgous 12 hour nap on the couch, or even watch a pleasent show/movie. Even

Even if someone stayed in my living room they would stay a little bit longer. If I took a small servay to see who likes my living room nobody could say no. It gose to show its just compy and serene. Some people would say its the smells or even the shaggy carpet.

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My Favorite Place

My most favorite place in the whole wide world is my school. It is full of life, and something new happens there everyday. I am going to show you some stuff that happens at our school.

First of all, there is a lot of thing you can see and hear as you step down the halls of this school. The sound of teaching talking to their students, the tapping of pencils on a thin, rough piece of paper, and the sound of metal clashing as you see a teenager shut their locker.

Another reason why school is my favorite place is because of all of the stuff you do during classes. You can play games during P.E., study infomation for a quiz that you have to do tomarrow morning, or simple have the relief that you finished all of your homework so you don't have to take it home.

Finally, there is a lot of thing that you feel at school that you don't anywhere else. A few examples are if you get goosebumps as the teacher hands your test out to the class, or if you forgot your homework and you frantically try to get it doen as fast as your hand can move. These are some of the feeling you might feel if you are at school.

As you can see, school has a lot of cool things you can do and that you can see.

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I enjoy my house. It's very comforting place that I can always talk to my friends and family there. I have to be nice but not so nice like I do at school. I can talk back at my sister but I can't with my parents well kinda it all depenes on the situation and how bad it is. When i'm at home I can relaxe and be lazy I can go and watch TV any where in the house besides my sisters room.

The things that I see at my house are so many sights. I can look in my room and that can be very clean or so dirt it's not even real. I can go and watch TV and that has so many things on it, it's not even funny. I can look outside my window, my parents, the kitchen or even the living room window and I can see wild life or our neibers playing acrossed the street or even the trees and nature that it all a beautiful sight. Every day i can almost see anything new to me.

I can smell everything that is cooking, the fresh laundry, the dog food, the soap, or even the gross trash can. Everything is new you could smell something diffrent every day its so untellable. When ever i will take a shower I can smell all the good smelling soap I us. Sometimes when it rains outside I love to go and open the garage door so that i can smell that smell of the rain which I think is the best smell ever. Even on the weekends when my dad works on his big truck I can smell the desiel fuel from his truck and I hate that smell because it gives me a big fat headache.

I can hear the TV running, the water running, the food sizzling, the dog barking, my sister yelling, my dad telling the dog to leave him along, or the best part of being home is when you are in your room all by yourself and all you can hear is you thinking or the music that you turned on. I love going into my room and listening to myself think it makes me feel comtible and I can lay in my bed and do my homework in complete silence. I love to have my dog in my room with me because when it's quiet I can hear him sleep and I love the sounds that he makes when he sleeps because sometimes he will bark, he will whine, or he will just snor and i love that.

I can feel so many things in my house because I can touch everything. I can touch everything because everything is all mine kind of. I love to feel my dogs fur because it's super duper soft all the time. I love the feel of my bed becasue its soft. Everyday i feel almost everything in my homes its just so hard to explain. I touch everything just from when i walk in the front door like the door nob andmy bag clothes and everything.

Key to Grade 8 – NeSA Writing Rubric/Scoring Training Practice papers.

The following papers received a score 2 in all four domains from both readers:

Page 2 – “The place I enjoy is outside.”

Page 3– “When I am out on the football field or at a football game I can smell the fresh grass or turf.”

Page 4 – “Imagine walking into a pink and brown privet cave.”

The following papers received a score of 3 in all four domains from both graders:

Page 5 – One Day Of My Hunting - Title

Page 6 - “Swish”

Page 7 – “The place I enjoy the most is my bed.”

The following papers received a score of 2 from one reader and score of 3 from the other reader. The 2/3 split was in all four domains.

Page 8 – Whats on television? - Title

Page 9 – My Favorite Place - Title

Page 10 – “I enjoy my house.”