

Nebraska Department of Education

2011 Statewide Writing Assessment

Grade 8 Task: DESCRIPTIVE WRITING

Think about your dream house. It could be any place you wish.

Write an essay describing your dream house by creating a vivid mental picture using sensory details for the readers so that they can see it, experience it, and be able to understand why you would want to live there.

PROFICIENT*

- * Creates a limited picture; description is limited.
- * Sequencing is somewhat logical; pacing is inconsistent.
- * Conveys a limited sense of the person; is occasionally expressive.
- * Occasional use of specific or precise words.
- * Sentences occasionally vary in length and structure.
- * Errors in conventions may distract the reader.

* This writing sample received a score of 6.00.

There is one place where I would be able to relax and just chill. A place where I could just wash away all the troubles of the day. This would be my dream house.

I would live in Hawaii. There I would be encircled with lush, green, vegetation. Where the crisp, fresh, cool air encircles you.

My dream house would consist of three long floors. On the first floor I would have a jungle theme, where I would keep lots of exotic plants. I would have a dark vivid blue wallpaper which would make it seem as though you are gazing into the depths of the ocean.

On the second floor I would have all my basic living essentials, such as a kitchen, with a huge fully stocked fridge, and personal chef. There I would have nice stained hardwood floors. In the bathroom I would have the finest, nicest tile ever. I would also have a monumental shower which would have a built in waterproof stereo system.

The third floor is where I would spend most of my time. Inside would be my own personal home theater, where I would invite my friends to come over and watch the latest movies. Besides the home theater I would have my own game room, where I would have all the latest technology and games and a huge 100" flat screen tv. Then I would have my outrageous bed. In which laid upon said bed you would sink into which would make you feel as if your sleeping on a cloud. To where I would wake up to the gentle cooling touch of the ocean breeze.

This would be my dream house. A place to live and forget the troubles of the day. To which there would be no such thing as a bad day here in this paradise.