

Direct Writing Assessment (Persuasive Prompt)

State Released Items

Writing Assignment
Grade 8
Persuasive

Your city council is considering a safety regulation that would require skateboarders, rollerbladers and bikers to wear safety helmets. Decide whether or not you agree with this regulation. Write to convince your city council of your position.

When you write your paper, be sure to:

1. State whether or not you agree with this regulation.
2. Give reasons to convince the city council of your point of view.
3. Organize your ideas well and present them clearly.

CONNECTICUT MASTERY TEST
RUBRIC FOR PERSUASIVE WRITING
Grade 8

Score Point 6

Well-developed responses; writers are consistently aware of their audience

- reasons fully elaborated with specific detail
- strong organizational strategy
- fluent

Score Point 5

Developed responses; writers are, for the most part, aware of their audience

- reasons moderately well-elaborated with mostly specific details
- generally strong organizational strategy
- moderately fluent

Score Point 4

Somewhat-developed responses; writers are generally aware of their audience

- reasons adequately elaborated with a mix of general and specific details
- satisfactory organizational strategy
- somewhat fluent

Score Point 3

Minimally-developed responses; writers are somewhat aware of their audience

- reasons have only a little elaboration; more general than specific details
- some evidence of organizational strategy
- some awkwardness may be present

Score Point 2

Undeveloped responses; usually brief with details just listed; writers' awareness of audience is limited

- mostly general details
- may be disorganized
- may be awkward and confused

Score Point 1

Very sparse responses; writers' awareness of audience may be nonexistent

- may have few/vague details
- too brief to indicate sequencing
- awkward and confused