

## **Assessment Overview:** ***Writing in English: Step by Step***

This document includes the following:

- An overview of the assessment
- Student instructions
- Pre-test and post-test assessment rubrics
- The picture used in the assessment

### **Assessment overview**

The purpose of this assessment is to demonstrate the progress that students have made after working through *Writing in English: Step by Step*. The assessment consists of a pre-and post-test in which students write about a picture. Since many students will not have completed the book prior to the end of a session, the post-test can be given after students have completed Chapter 6, or half of the book. The assessment focuses on writing mechanics such as basic paragraph structure, capitalization and punctuation, and correct verb usage, all pre-requisites to writing correct paragraphs in English.

### **When to give the assessments**

- Give the pre-test before students have started *Writing in English: Step by Step*.
- Give the post-test after students have completed Chapter 6 of the book, or any time after that.

### **What each student needs to complete the assessment:**

- A sheet of lined notebook paper
- A copy of the drawing the student will write about. The same drawing is used in the pre- and post-test.

**Instructions:** Write the student instructions on the board and read them to the student. (They're on the next page of this document.)

**Grading the pre: test an post: test:** The attached rubric provides instructions for grading the tests.

## Instructions for students

- Write about what is happening in the picture.
- You should write a paragraph, not a list.
- Your paragraph must include between 6 and 8 sentences.
- Here is the first sentence of the paragraph:  
*It's a busy day at the park.*
- You have 30 minutes. Check your writing when you finish.

Writing in English: Step by Step: Rubric/Score Sheet  
Pre-test

Student's last name \_\_\_\_\_ Student's first name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Test Date \_\_\_\_\_ Test score \_\_\_\_\_

	2 points	1 points	0 points	Student Score	Total points possible
<b>Content</b>					
The paragraph includes at least 6 sentences that are relevant to the prompt*	The paragraph includes at least 6 sentences and the first 6 sentences are relevant to the prompt. _____	The paragraph includes at least 6 sentences and at least 4 of the first 6 sentences are relevant to the prompt. _____	The paragraph includes fewer than 6 sentences. _____	____ x 2 = ____	4
<b>Format</b>					
Sentences are organized into a paragraph as opposed to a list.	All sentences are part of a paragraph. _____	At least 4 of the first 6 sentences are part of a paragraph. _____	Less than 4 of the first 6 sentences are part of a paragraph. _____	____ x 1 = ____	2
The first sentence is indented.	Yes, it is indented. _____		No, it is not indented. _____	____ x 1 = ____	2
<b>Sentence structure/grammar</b>					
Sentences contain a subject and a verb and are not run-on sentences.	At least 5 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	At least 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	Less than 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	____ x 2 = ____	4
The verbs in the paragraph are used correctly.	Five of the first six verbs used in the paragraph are used correctly. (Use of the present continuous counts as a single verb.) _____	At least three of the first six verbs used in the paragraph are used correctly. (Use of the present continuous counts as a single verb.) _____	Less than three of the first six verbs used in the paragraph are used correctly. (Use of the present continuous counts as a single verb.) _____	____ x 2 = ____	4

Writing in English: Step by Step: Rubric/Score Sheet  
Pre-test, page 2

	2 points	1 points	0 points	Student Score	Total points possible
The subjects of sentences are identifiable as opposed to he or she. The subjects do not include a noun and pronoun. (The old man he is ....)	At least 5 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	At least 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	Less than 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	____ x 1 = _____	2
<b>Capitalization and punctuation</b>					
Capitals are used at the beginning of sentences that have been defined by the author. Periods or other correct punctuation are used at the end of sentences that are defined by the author.	At least 5 of 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	At least 3 of 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	Less than 3 of 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	____ x 1 = _____	2
In addition to initial caps at the beginning of sentences, capital letters are used correctly.	There are very few (two or fewer) instances where capital letters are used incorrectly. _____	There are some (between three and eight) instances where capital letters are used incorrectly. _____	There are more than eight instances where capital letters are used incorrectly. _____	____ x 1 = _____	2
<b>TOTAL</b>					22

\*Do not use the first sentence, the one that you provide, as one of the six sentences that you grade.

Writing in English: Step by Step: Rubric/Score Sheet

Post-test

Student's last name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's first name \_\_\_\_\_

Difference (Post test score minus pre-test score) \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Test Date \_\_\_\_\_

Test score \_\_\_\_\_

	2 points	1 points	0 points	Student Score	Total points possible
<b>Content</b>					
The paragraph includes at least 6 sentences that are relevant to the prompt*	The paragraph includes at least 6 sentences and the first 6 sentences are relevant to the prompt. _____	The paragraph includes at least 6 sentences and at least 4 of the first 6 sentences are relevant to the prompt. _____	The paragraph includes fewer than 6 sentences. _____	____ x 2 = ____	4
<b>Format</b>					
Sentences are organized into a paragraph as opposed to a list.	All sentences are part of a paragraph. _____	At least 4 of the first 6 sentences are part of a paragraph. _____	Less than 4 of the first 6 sentences are part of a paragraph. _____	____ x 1 = ____	2
The first sentence is indented.	Yes, it is indented. _____		No, it is not indented. _____	____ x 1 = ____	2
<b>Sentence structure/grammar</b>					
Sentences contain a subject and a verb and are not run-on sentences.	At least 5 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	At least 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	Less than 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	____ x 2 = ____	4
The verbs in the paragraph are used correctly.	Five of the first six verbs used in the paragraph are used correctly. (Use of the present continuous counts as a single verb.) _____	At least three of the first six verbs used in the paragraph are used correctly. (Use of the present continuous counts as a single verb.) _____	Less than three of the first six verbs used in the paragraph are used correctly. (Use of the present continuous counts as a single verb.) _____	____ x 2 = ____	4

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Writing in English: Step by Step: Rubric/Score Sheet  
Post-test, page 2

	2 points	1 points	0 points	Student Score	Total points possible
The subjects of sentences are identifiable as opposed to he or she. The subjects do not include a noun and pronoun. (The old man he is ....)	At least 5 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	At least 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	Less than 3 of the first 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	____ x 1 = _____	2
<b>Capitalization and punctuation</b>					
Capitals are used at the beginning of sentences that have been defined by the author. Periods or other correct punctuation are used at the end of sentences that are defined by the author.	At least 5 of 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	At least 3 of 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	Less than 3 of 6 sentences fit these criteria. _____	____ x 1 = _____	2
In addition to initial caps at the beginning of sentences, capital letters are used correctly.	There are very few (two or fewer) instances where capital letters are used incorrectly. _____	There are some (between three and eight) instances where capital letters are used incorrectly. _____	There are more than eight instances where capital letters are used incorrectly. _____	____ x 1 = _____	2
<b>TOTAL</b>					22

\*Do not use the first sentence, the one that you provide, as one of the six sentences that you grade.



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