
ISA Common Core Standard Writing Assessment

Cover Sheet

Dear Student,

This is an assessment of important writing skills for students to master in high school.

Your teachers will be grading your writing assessment and reporting your score. Your scores from this assessment will be used by your school to help improve its writing instruction.

It is important to try your best on this writing assessment!

On the next page, you will find a writing task with several parts. The parts of the task are:

- the Situation, which gives you important information for your writing.
- the Assignment, which tells you the subject and type of writing you are being asked to write.
- the Scoring Criteria, which helps you know what makes a good written piece.
- the Pre-write Ideas which help you get started by asking a few questions to think about.

Use the following Pre-write page to make notes, do an outline or idea "web," and/or write a first draft. We suggest you take at least 10 to 15 minutes to work on the Pre-write. Your Pre-write page will not be scored.

Important: Write your final piece on the page marked "Final Writing."

Please be neat. Make any corrections you want directly on the page.

You should have plenty of time to complete your writing.

Your teacher will tell you when half the time is over.

If you have any questions, or if you need more paper, please raise your hand.

Your Name: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

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Fall 2012

Directions

1. Make sure to write your name, grade and school on the top of the page.
2. Read The Situation below
3. Then read The Assignment that follows.
4. Be sure to follow all of the directions in The Assignment.

The Situation: It has been said that people should always tell the truth. Others believe that in certain situations it is okay to lie. What do you think? Is honesty ALWAYS the best policy? Are there situations when it is okay to not tell the truth? Where do you stand on this issue?

The Assignment: Based on your experience as an adolescent, and using evidence from literature or articles you have read, song lyrics, movies, T.V. programs, etc, write an argument in which you take a clear position on this issue: is honesty ALWAYS the best policy? ARE there situations when it is okay to not tell the truth?

In your argument, you should do the following:

1. Take a clear position, and make precise claim(s) or points that support your position.
2. Use at least two kinds of evidence to support your position from:
 - your personal experience,
 - literature or articles you have read,
 - song lyrics,
 - movies and T.V. programs, or
 - other sources.
3. State at least one alternate or opposing position.
4. State the strengths and limits of both your own and alternative positions.
5. Make sure your writing is well organized and uses formal style and writing conventions (spelling, grammar, etc.)
6. Provide a conclusion that summarizes and supports your argument and includes implications and insights for your reader to think about.

Scoring Criteria: Your teacher will score your essay based on how well your argument demonstrates the 6 components listed above.

Pre-write Ideas: What is your position on this issue: is honesty ALWAYS the best policy? ARE there situations when it is okay to not tell the truth? What are some opposing viewpoints to your own? What might other people think? What are some sources you can use to provide evidence to support your position? Use the Pre-writing pages for making notes, planning, and/or drafting your argument. Remember, the pre-writing pages will be collected but not scored. Write your final argument in the space marked "Final Writing".

Pre-WRITING PAGE

Use the next pages for planning your essay. Remember, your pre-write will be collected but not scored. Write your final draft in the space marked "Final Writing."

Based on your experience as an adolescent, and using evidence from literature or articles you have read, song lyrics, movies, T.V. programs, etc, write an argument in which you take a clear position on this issue: is honesty ALWAYS the best policy? ARE there situations when it is okay to not tell the truth?

What is your position on this issue: is honesty ALWAYS the best policy? ARE there situations when it is okay to not tell the truth? What are some opposing viewpoints to your own? What might other people think? What are some sources you can use to provide evidence to support your position?

Pre-WRITING PAGE

