## 2019 NYSESLAT Writing Rubric—Grades 3–4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Score 0 – Entering</th>
<th>Score 1 – Emerging</th>
<th>Score 2 – Transitioning</th>
<th>Score 3 – Expanding</th>
<th>Score 4 – Commanding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A response at this level:</td>
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<td>A response at this level:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Complexity of Language** | • Contains zero or few words or short phrases  
• Is blank  
• Is completely in a language other than English  
• Is illegible or unintelligible  
• Is completely copied text  
• Is isolated words or a list of words or short phrases | • Contains some words, short phrases, and occasionally simple sentences  
• Includes at least one sentence  
• May include adapted text in a well-constructed sentence | • Contains mostly simple sentences  
• Includes at least one expanded or complex sentence | • Contains simple, expanded, and complex sentences | • Contains a variety of simple, expanded, and complex sentences |
| **Quality of Language** | • Contains at most frequently used Tier 1 words or predictable phrases | • Contains Tier 1 and common grade-level Tier 2 words and short phrases | • Contains Tier 1 and a few grade-level Tier 2 words and phrases | • Contains Tier 1 and some grade-level Tier 2 words and phrases | • Contains Tier 1 and many grade-level Tier 2 words and phrases |
| **Coherence of Response** | • Lacks a clear introduction, or development of a thought or an idea, or completion due to brevity | • Includes at least one sentence to introduce, develop, or complete thoughts or ideas | • Includes words and sentences that provide a limited introduction, development, and/or completion of linked thoughts, ideas, or both | • Includes words and sentences that provide an introduction, development, and completion of linked thoughts, ideas, or both to provide partial organization | • Includes words and sentences that provide an introduction, development, and completion of linked thoughts, ideas, or both to provide clear and sufficient organization |
| **SCR**              | Lacks descriptions of ideas or facts | Includes at least one description of an idea or a fact | Includes some minimally detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both | Includes many detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both | Includes many sufficiently detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both |
| **ECR Narrative**   | Lacks development of descriptions or events | Includes at least one description or event | Includes some detailed descriptions and/or two or more events in sequence | Includes many detailed descriptions and events in sequence | Includes many and varied detailed descriptions and events in sequence |
| **ECR Informational** | Lacks development of connected ideas | Includes at least one original idea or two ideas that are connected | Includes some supported and/or connected ideas | Includes many supported and connected ideas | Includes many and varied supported and connected ideas |
| **Mechanics**       | • Contains numerous errors that totally obscure meaning  
• Contains words that are unclear | • Contains many errors that often obscure meaning  
• Contains words that may be unclear, but meaning is evident  
• May include inventive spelling | • Contains some errors that occasionally obscure meaning  
Is mostly clear  
May include inventive spelling | • Contains few errors that rarely obscure meaning  
Is clear  
May include inventive spelling | • Contains minimal or no errors that obscure meaning  
Is clear  
May include inventive spelling |

**Note:** Responses that are completely irrelevant to the prompt can be scored no higher than a 1.