

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics:
Junior Division

Released 2009 Assessment: Language 2, Writing

**Rubrics and Sample Student Responses
with Annotations**

Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Q23: Write a story in which someone’s life is changed for the better after receiving a letter in the mail.

Code	Descriptor
B	Blank: nothing written or drawn in the space provided
I	<p>Illegible: cannot be read; completely crossed out / erased; not written in English</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Irrelevant content: does not attempt assigned prompt (e.g., comment on the task, drawings, “?”, “!”, “I don’t know”)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Off topic: no relationship of written work to assigned prompt</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Errors in conventions prevent communication</p>
10	Response is not developed; ideas and information are limited and unclear. Organization* is random with no links between ideas. Response has a limited relationship to the assigned task.**
20	Response is minimally developed with few ideas and little information. Organization* is minimal with weak links between ideas. Response is partly related to the assigned task.**
30	Response has a clear focus, adequately developed with ideas and supporting details. Organization* is simple or mechanical with adequate links between ideas. Response is clearly related to the assigned task.**
40	Response has a clear focus, well-developed with sufficient specific and relevant ideas and supporting details. Organization* is logical and coherent with effective links between ideas. Response has a thorough relationship to the assigned task.**

Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Code
10

Write your story here.

you see a mail truck you look a
your mail you get a package
you look inside you see money
and when you count it you see 100,000,000\$
and it say your a boss of a
company your bye a house and you
live long in riches.

Annotation:

Response is not developed; ideas and information are limited (e.g., ...you see a mail truck...you get a package...you see money...you see 100,000,000\$). Organization is random.

Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Code
20

Write your story here.

On June 14th 2009 Joe walked out of his house to his mail box, he opened it and found a single letter. After reading the letter he was happier than ever, he had won a trip to Las Vegas! He would leave June 21st for his 3 week trip. He ran back inside and started packing even though it was 7 days away. He packed 5 shirts 5 pairs of pants and 3 pairs of socks and underwear. For the next 7 days Joe told every body he knew. When the 7 days were up he woke up early to get



Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Continued...

Code
20

to his plane. He got on
the plane and waited. After
a while the plane took off
towards Las Vegas. The first
thing Joe saw was a
sign that read "welcome to Viva
Las Vegas". Soon after they
landed. Joe got out of
the plane and was
dumbfounded by how colour-
ful the place was. Instantly
he knew he was going to have
a great time.

THE END

Annotation:

Response is minimally developed with a few ideas (e.g., ...he won a trip to Las Vegas!; ...started packing; ...Joe told everybody he knew.; He got on the plane and waited.; ...was dumbfounded by how colourful the place was.; ...knew he was going to have a great time.). Organization is minimal (e.g., He got on the plane; the plane took off; The first thing Joe saw).

Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Code
30

Write your story here.

There once was a girl named Lily. She lived in a huge house with her mom, dad and her brother, Thomas. Lily was getting older and older. By the time she turned 10, she had grown so fast that she needed a new bike.

One day Lily went to her room. But first, she had to grab the Sportcheck flyer to see if she liked any of their bikes. As she was walking up the stairs, she spotted the best bike she had ever seen! So Lily quickly shut her door, ran down the stairs, and went to the kitchen. "Mommy, mommy, I have found the bike I should buy," Lily said while she was huffing and puffing. Mom told her that it was a lot of money, so she would have to pay for it.



Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Continued...

Code
30

herself.

She already had \$100.00 saved up from her birthday. Lily needed \$50.00 more dollars for the bike. So, one day she decided to sell lemonade. Only 5 people bought her lemonade. When the mailman came to tell Lily she had a letter, she was very happy. Lily carefully opened it. It was a letter from her grandma, saying she forgot it was Lily's birthday. Inside Lily found that \$50.00. She ran inside to the kitchen and told her mom. Lily said "can we go today to get me the bike I wanted?"

"Sure" said her mother.

And from that day on, Lily figured out if she saved her money, she could buy lots of good things.

Annotation:

Response is has a clear focus, adequately developed with ideas and supporting details (e.g., ...she needed a new bike.; ...had to grab the Sportcheck flyer...spotted the best bike she had ever seen!; ...she would have to pay for it; ...needed \$50.00 more; ...a letter from her grandma; ...found that \$50.00.). Organization is simple with adequate links between ideas (e.g., There once was...; One day Lily...; And from that day on...).

Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Code
40

Write your story here.

Noah is an ordinary thirteen year old. He goes to an ordinary school, he has ordinary friends, ordinary parent, an ordinary life. But Noah loved to act. He absolutely adored it! A lot of his friends didn't know that he was currently in a play, called Nails. A lot of people who know him don't even know he has an interest in dramatic art. Noah also longed for a chance to audition for a television show, or even a movie. But the problem was, he lived in Canada. Not many movies were made in Canada, mostly the U.S. But things were about to change. As Noah's father was looking through the mail, he found a letter addressed to his son, and gave it to him. Noah tore through the envelope and read. Congratulations! You and your family have one a free trip to Hollywood! All fees will be covered by OAGOE! So quickly, pack your bags! Inside, you'll find three plane tickets to California. Your flight leaves next Monday! Noah couldn't hold back a scream of excitement! A brand new television series was in the making, and he really wanted to audition for the part of Miles, one of the characters in the show.



Scoring Guide for Long Writing Topic Development
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Continued...

Code
40

The _____ left the next week. Noah had told his parents about the auditions. They had agreed to leave him in the line up for the part while they went out, and come back later with lunch. They had warned him that if the auditions went past 10:00 pm that he would have to leave. That's why they had got up at 5:00 am, so they could line up by 6:00 am. Now, at 6:00 pm, 12 hours later he was next. It was nerve racking. The fellow before walked out of the audition room. It was Noah's turn. He slowly walked into the room. He was about to say hi to the judges, but no words came out. After a few deep breaths, he was ready. And then, he acted like he never did at any point in his life. When he was done, he called his parents via cell phone. A few weeks later, back at home, Noah received a call and was informed that he got the role as Miles. The _____ were now heading back to Hollywood. And as they flew, Noah sat there, deep in thought. His greatest wish, what he desired most, had just been fulfilled. All thanks to a letter in the mail, his life has been changed.

Annotation:

Response has a clear focus, well-developed with sufficient specific and relevant ideas and supporting details (e.g., ...Noah loved to act.; ...longed for a chance to audition for a television show; You and your family have one free trip to Hollywood!; ...he really wanted to audition for the part of Miles; After a few deep breaths, he was ready.; ...what he desired most, had just been fulfilled.). Organization is logical with effective links between ideas (e.g., As Noah's father was...; After a few deep breaths...).

Scoring Guide for Long Writing - Conventions Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Q23: Write a story in which someone's life is changed for the better after receiving a letter in the mail.

Code	Descriptor
B	Blank: nothing written or drawn in the space provided
I	Illegible: cannot be read; completely crossed out / erased; not written in English OR Errors in conventions prevent ¹ communication
10	Errors in conventions interfere ² with communication OR Insufficient evidence ³ to assess the use of conventions
20	Errors in conventions do not interfere ⁴ with communication
30	Conventions are used appropriately ⁵ to communicate

Scoring Guide for Long Writing - Conventions
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Code
10

Write your story here.

Jake woke up one morning to his alarm
he was used to it so it didnt wake him up
his mother came running up in excitement
from getting the mail she woke him
up by an excitful yell saying
you mabe Jake said I made what
you made it into conestoga
colage his mom replide Jake jumped
out of bed with excitement yay now
I can finally foofil my dream.

Annotation:

Response has errors in conventions (e.g., misspelled words: *mabe*, *excitful*, *collage*, *excitment*; omission of punctuation to indicate sentences within the response, omission of quotations to indicate speech: *Jake said I mabe what...*) that interfere with communication.

Scoring Guide for Long Writing - Conventions
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Code
20

Write your story here.

Once upon a time there lived a boy called Jack. He was really poor and he had to clean people's shoes to get money and he gets paid \$5 per month. So one day a person named Phill came to clean his shoe and he saw Jack and he said do you want to work for my company.

So Jack said ok, he asked Phill what kind of job is it. Phill said it was a job where you have to give mail to people. So Jack said ok I love those kind of jobs.

Then 1 week later Jack got a letter in his mail box. So Jack opened it and started reading it. It said Dear Jack congratulations you have been accepted to



Scoring Guide for Long Writing - Conventions
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Continued...

Code
20

be a Mail Man. And the salary is
\$800 per month. Jack
was so happy because in at least
2 years he could be a billionaire
and he will be able to buy a
car and a big house. So Jack
started to work at the company
and he kept on raising a lot of
money and he became a business
man. with his own company which
was named Jack's company and he
lived happily ever after with a lot
of money from poor to billionaire.

Annotation:

Response has errors in conventions (e.g., misspelled words: *atleast*, *buissiness*; omission of punctuation to indicate speech: *...he said do you want to work for my company*) that do not interfere with communication.

Scoring Guide for Long Writing - Conventions
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Code
30

Write your story here.

One evening John was in his workshop trying to create a solar powered leaf blower, until...

"It works, It works," John hollered. "NOW I can sell it to someone and make millions, no billions, no trillions."

The next day John had sold it to a hardware company, which said, "We'll tell ya how it turns out." So, John waited and waited, day and night, and week and month until finally he just gave up and became a gardener.

"Year after year," John said solemnly. "They still haven't got back to me." "I'm so tired of raking, why not just get a regular leaf blower," John thought.



Scoring Guide for Long Writing - Conventions
Story (Letter in the Mail) Question 23

Continued...

Code
30

The next day John went out on regular shopping trip, until he remembered that he needed a new leaf blower. So, he walked down to the yard work section where it said, "20% off sale on the new solar powered leaf blower." in fine big print.

Right away John went to the store manager and asked, "Excuse me, but where did you get those solar powered leaf blowers?" "Well sir, we got that idea from a man that goes by the name of John Clumper." We've been looking for him all over, but can't find him. Might you know where he lives?" The man said while John replied with, "Actually, he lives on 194 Lacro Lane.

After that John went home to see a man on his front porch with a suitcase. John asked, "Is that for John Clumper, 'cause I'm him." "Well this is your money then."

Annotation:

Response uses conventions appropriately to communicate (e.g., subordinate clauses: *Well sir, we got that...*; punctuation for speech: John went to the store manager and asked, "Excuse me, but where did you get those solar powered leaf blowers?"; prepositions: *...until finally he just gave up...*).