

## Student Writing Sample Rubric Exam High School Admissions

	0	2	4		
<b>Appropriately responds to questions.</b>	Does not adequately respond to questions. Responded to one or none of the guiding questions	Responds appropriately to two of the guiding questions	Responds appropriately to three or more of the guiding questions	<p>This rubric is used to score student writing samples. The maximum score is <b>20 points</b>. The writing sample accounts for 20 percent of the final application score.</p>	
	0	2	4	8	10
<b>Presents themselves as a convincing candidate</b>	Provides no reasons why he/she would be a good candidate	Reasons provided are vague. There was no supporting information or evidence to highlight standout qualities; only speaks to the desire to attend	Provides compelling reasons why he/she would be a good candidate. Still, answers lack support and evidence and lack uniqueness of student quality over simple desire to attend	Demonstrates through evidence or anecdotes that he/she is well rounded and prepared academically for the rigor of an exam school. Provides clear support for his/her value to the student body	GPA and other exceptional qualities such as leadership, and participation in extracurricular activities are clearly demonstrated. Student is at the highest echelon of candidates and cites those characteristics as evidence for admission
	0	2	4	6	
<b>Organization, structure, grammar</b>	Grammar is improper; includes informal language and poor formatting that distracts from the coherence of the essay	The number of grammatical errors distract from an otherwise well formatted essay	Few issues with grammar; otherwise well formatted, organized and clearly constructed	No grammatical mistakes or mistakes in spelling. Style and voice are evident. Well organized, clear, formal. Clearly reviewed and revised before submission	



### Guiding Questions for Applicant Essays

1. Which Examination High School(s) do you want to attend and why do you want to attend?
2. What makes you an exceptional candidate for admission?
3. Describe one or more qualities that make you stand out; provide examples to demonstrate those qualities to the admissions team.
4. How will admittance help you achieve your goals for the future?