

# WritePlacer®

Rock Valley College

After taking ACCUPLACER Sentence skills two (2) times and scoring 40-75 on one or both attempts, a student may take the WritePlacer free of charge one (1) time for higher placement. A score of 6 or higher is required for placement into ENG 101 and a score of 5 is required for placement into ENG 099.

WritePlacer is an on-demand computer-based essay giving you an opportunity to show how effectively you can develop and express your ideas in writing. Scores on WritePlacer range from 1 to 8. An essay that is too short to be evaluated, written on a topic other than the one presented, or written in a language other than English will be given a score of zero.

WritePlacer testing is available during walk-in hours (Monday-Thursday 9am -2pm) or by appointment. Call 815-921-2380 to schedule an appointment.

## Instructions

You will first read a short passage and an assignment question that are focused on an important issue.

You will then write an essay in which you develop your own point of view on the issue.

Be sure to support your position with appropriate reasoning and examples.

The position you take on the issue will not influence your score.

## Scoring

Your essay will be scored based on how clearly and effectively you expressed your position on the issue.

These six characteristics of writing will be considered:

- **Purpose and Focus** – The extent to which you present information in a unified and coherent manner, clearly addressing the issue.
- **Organization and Structure** – The extent to which you order and connect ideas.
- **Development and Support** – The extent to which you develop and support ideas.
- **Sentence Variety and Style** – The extent to which you craft sentences and paragraphs demonstrating control of vocabulary, voice and structure.
- **Mechanical Conventions** – The extent to which you express ideas using Standard Written English.
- **Critical Thinking** – The extent to which you communicate a point of view and demonstrate reasoned relationships among ideas.

## Essay Details

Time Allowed -	You will have <b>1 hour</b> . A timer will be visible in the upper right corner.
Essay Length -	3 to 5 paragraphs of 300 to 600 words. May not be less than 300 words.
Proofread -	Review your essay making corrections and revisions as necessary.
Scoring-	Your essay is graded electronically and scoring is immediate.

## How to Prepare

Visit us on the web at <http://www.rockvalleycollege.edu/Admission/Testing/accuplacerprep.cfm> for a list of internet resources.

Ask Testing Center staff for printed preparation materials.