

**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**SCORING RUBRIC**  
**UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION**

The UEPE is a 60-minute writing assessment administered during the fall, spring, and summer terms. Essays are scored using the following rubric:

**Scores**

<b>6</b>	Clearly demonstrates competence in writing on both the rhetorical and syntactic level, though it may have occasional errors.  A paper in this category --is well organized and well-developed --effectively addresses the writing task --uses appropriate details to support a thesis or illustrate ideas --shows unity, coherence, and progression --displays consistent facility in the use of language --demonstrates syntactic variety and appropriate word choice
<b>5</b>	Demonstrates competence in writing on both the rhetorical and syntactic levels, though it will have occasional errors.  A paper in this category --is generally well organized and well-developed, though it may have fewer details than does a 6 paper --may address some parts of the task more effectively than others --shows unity, coherence, and progression --demonstrates some syntactic variety and range of vocabulary --displays facility in language, though it may have more errors than does a 6 paper
<b>4</b>	Demonstrates minimal competence in writing on both the rhetorical and syntactic levels.  A paper in this category --is adequately organized --addresses the writing topic adequately but may slight parts of the task --uses some details to support a thesis or illustrate ideas --demonstrates adequate but undistinguishable or inconsistent facility with syntax and usage --may contain some serious errors that occasionally obscure meaning
<b>3</b>	Demonstrates some developing competence in writing, but remains flawed on either rhetorical or syntactic level, or both.  A paper in this category may reveal one or more of the following weaknesses:  --inadequate organization or development --failure to support or illustrate generalizations with appropriate or sufficient detail --in accumulation of errors in sentence structure and/or usage --a noticeable inappropriate choice of words or word forms
<b>2</b>	Suggests incompetence in writing.  A paper in this category is seriously flawed by one or more of the following weaknesses:  --failure to organize or develop --little or no detail, or irrelevant specifics --serious and frequent errors in usage or sentence structure --serious problem with focus
<b>1</b>	Demonstrates incompetence in writing  A paper in this category will contain serious and persistent writing errors, may be illogical or incoherent, or may reveal the writer's inability to comprehend the question. A paper that is severely underdeveloped, or one that exhibits no response at all, also falls into this category.