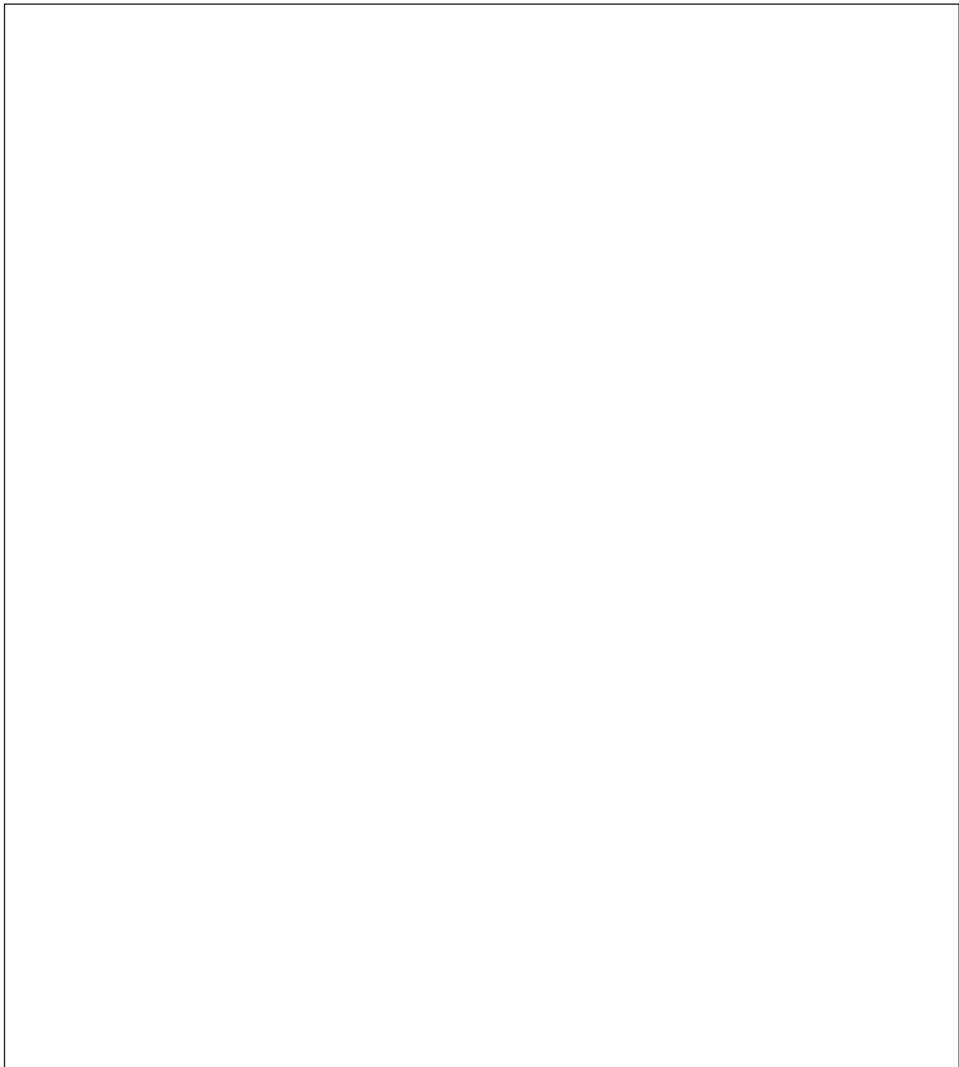


**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 1**

This essay exhibits limited ability to vary sentence length and use appropriate vocabulary.

**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 1**

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 1**



**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 1**

This essay exhibits limited ability to vary sentence length and apply appropriate vocabulary.

**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 1**

This response shows poor control of mechanical conventions such as grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 1**

## Score of 2

### Description of Score of 2

An essay in this category demonstrates *very little mastery* of on-demand essay writing. Flawed by *many or most* of the following weaknesses, a typical essay:

- presents a vague or limited point of view on the issue

- demonstrates little awareness of audience

- presents an unclear main idea

- reasoning

- displays numerous errors in word choice, usage, and sentence structure

Below are sample essays that received a score of 2. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

#### Sample Essay #1 – Score of 2

**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 1**

This response lacks clear purpose and focus.

**Organization and Structure, Score Point 1**

While there is an attempt at an organizational structure with paragraphing, unclear ideas create problems with progression.

**Development and Support, Score Point 1**

This essay needs additional ideas and support, as many of the ideas are unclear.

**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 1**

This essay exhibits limited ability to vary sentence length and apply appropriate vocabulary. Score Point 1



**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 1**

This response lacks clear purpose and focus.

**Organization and Structure, Score Point 1**

**Development and Support, Score Point 1**

**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 1**

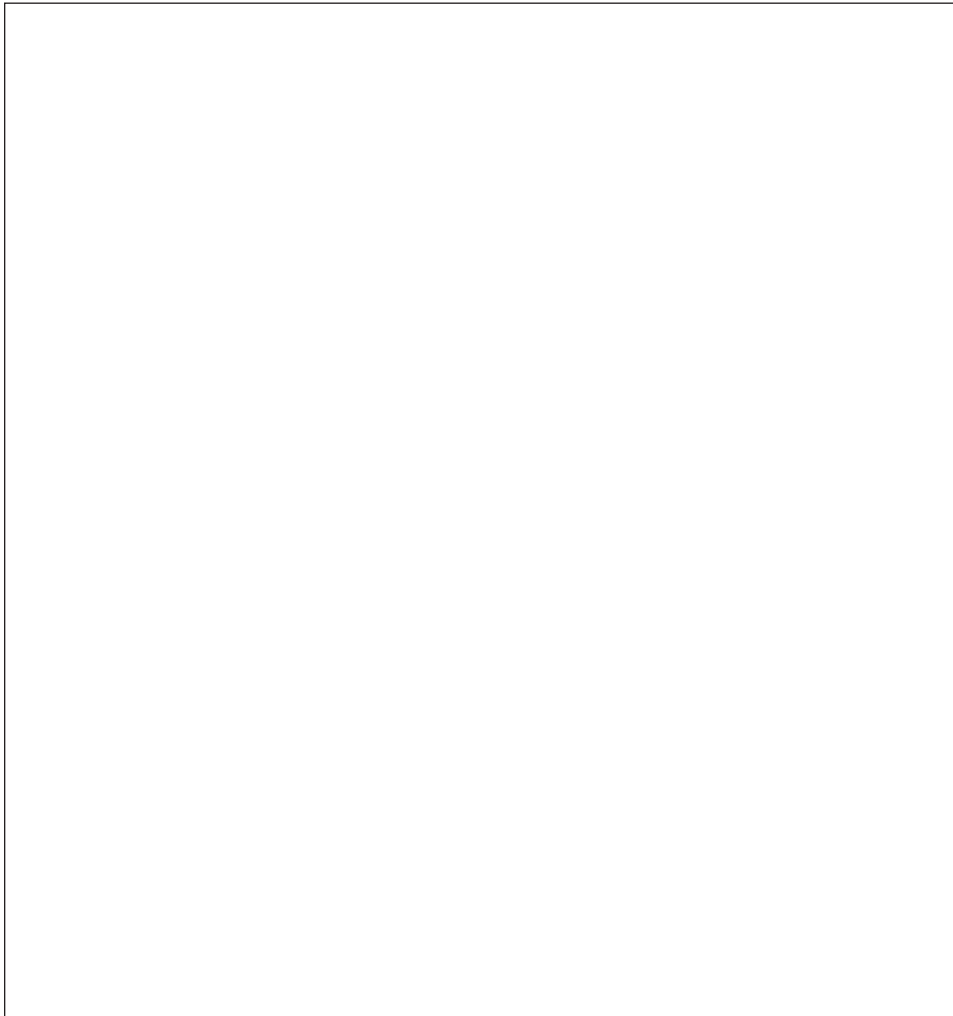
This essay exhibits limited ability to vary sentence length and vocabulary.

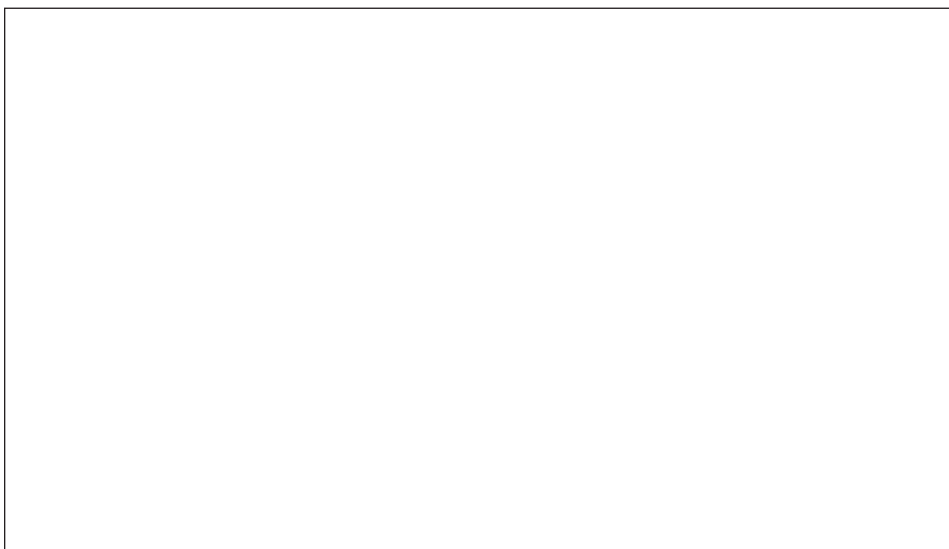
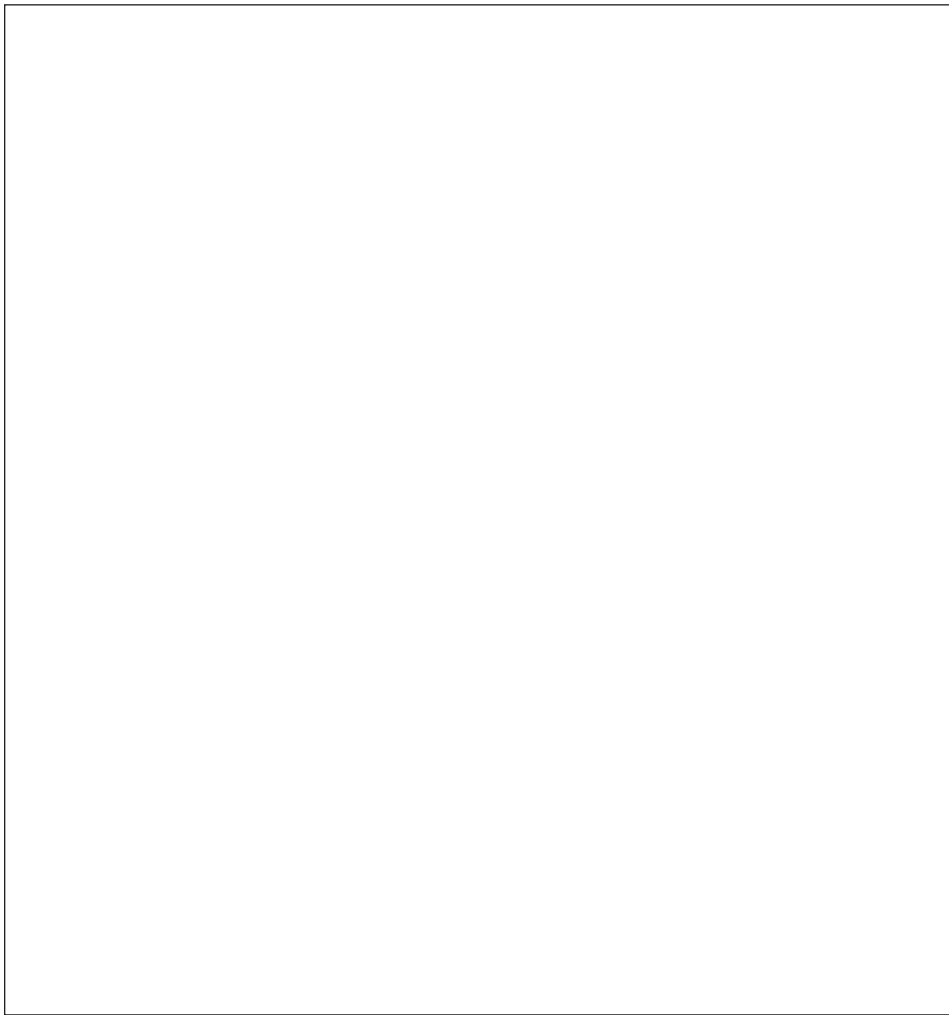
**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 1**

This response shows poor control of mechanical conventions such as grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 1**

**Score of 3**  
**Description of Score of 3**





**Annotations**

Demonstrating weak critical thinking, this essay develops a limited point of view, (employers) limit our choices but fails to address the issue of whether we are responsible for actions we take. The writer attempts to provide evidence that choices are limited, but disjointed and list-like examples lead to a problematic progression of ideas



The response contains errors in punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure

This response exhibits developing mastery of on-demand essay writing and receives a holistic score of 4.

**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 2**

**Organization and Structure, Score Point 2**

This response displays a lack of control over the organization of ideas.

**Development and Support, Score Point 2**

This response has limited support for its ideas.

**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 2**

of thought.

**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 2**

This response shows limited control of mechanical conventions.

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 2**

The essay shows limited clarity and complexity of thought.

**Sample Essay #2 – Score of 4**

Each and every person is able to freely make their own decisions. This is a

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set daily and you couldn't go outside of what has been set, then I do think that problems would start occurring. The opportunity of Free Choice is an amazing gift that people either take advantage of and help advance themselves with or throw away with a single bad choice. Either way we are still free to make our own choices and I think that will stay that way for a little while longer.

**Annotations**

This response presents a viable point of view and displays some critical thinking;

to the issue of responsibility (

. Other examples, such as the discussion of dangerous careers in the third paragraph, are inappropriate, straying from the purpose of the





**Annotations**

The writer vaguely acknowledges the prompt's assertion that circumstances such as ultimately rejecting the idea that circumstances inhibit our choices. Competent critical thinking adds nuance to the position. This is particularly evident in the second choice but goes on to suggest that even poor choices can equip one to better deal with the situation. The response is generally organized and exhibits a progression of ideas through the use of extended examples. Adequate control of language is demonstrated throughout the essay, with some varied sentence structures. This response exhibits adequate mastery of on-demand essay writing and receives a holistic score of 5.

**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 2**

**Organization and Structure, Score Point 2**

This response demonstrates limited organization of ideas.

**Development and Support, Score Point 2**

detailed support.

**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 2**

thought.

**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 2**

Minor errors occur in spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 2**

While demonstrating some critical thinking, this essay shows limited clarity and complexity of thought.



**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 2**

**Organization and Structure, Score Point 2**

Transitions help to link ideas, but overall the response demonstrates limited organization of ideas.

**Development and Support, Score Point 2**

This response has limited support for its ideas.

**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 3**

This essay shows control of sentence variety and structure.

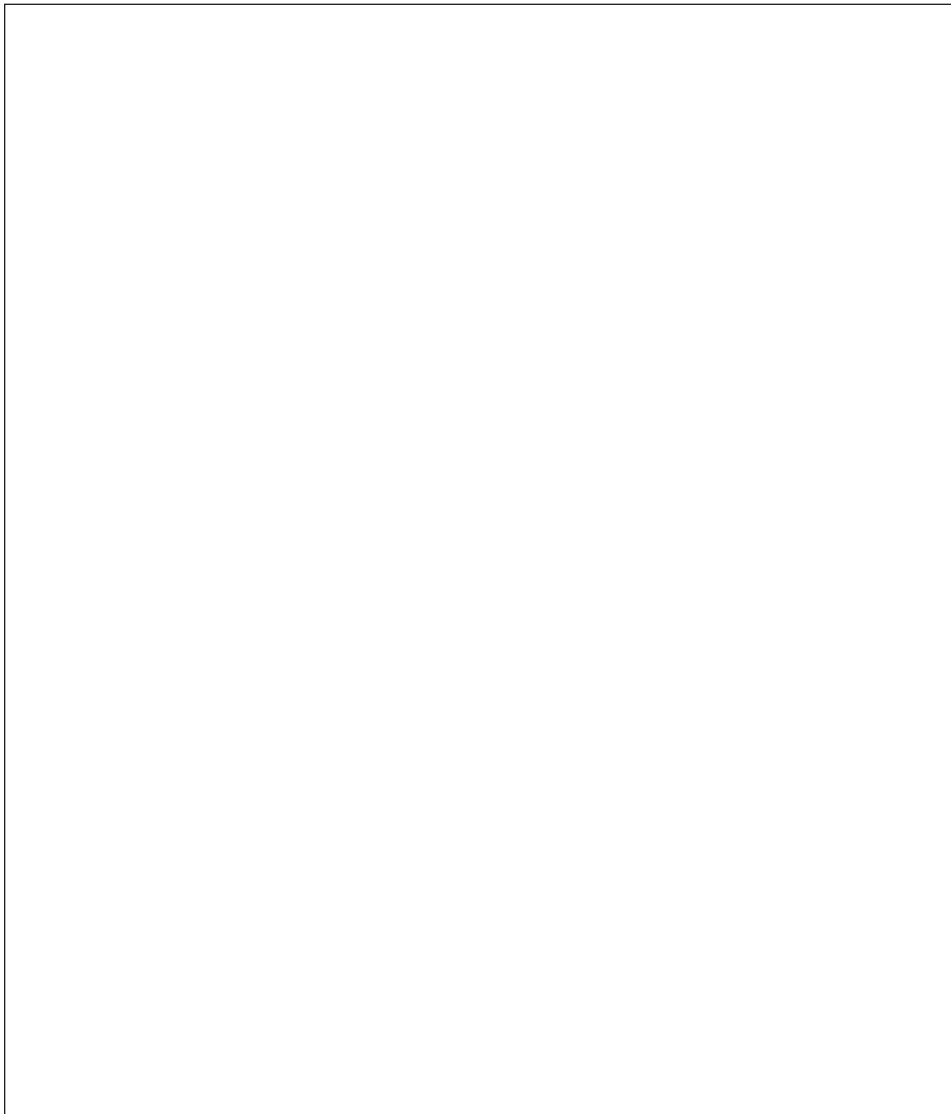
**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 2**

Minor errors occur in spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 2**

While demonstrating some critical thinking, this essay shows limited clarity and complexity of thought.

**Score of 6**  
**Description of Score of 6**



poverty rising, the means are becoming so much more of a forgotten treasure. At times it's our or somebody else's fault, and other times it's just an unfortunate fate.



structure, grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation. This response exhibits a reasonably consistent mastery of on-demand essay writing and receives a holistic score of 6.

**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 3**

This focused essay exhibits a clear purpose.

## Score of 7

### Description of Score of 7

An essay in this category demonstrates *consistent mastery* of on-demand essay writing, although it may have occasional minor errors. A typical essay:

addresses an appropriate audience and demonstrates a clear purpose for writing in the thesis statement

demonstrates outstanding critical thinking, using appropriate examples, reasons, and other evidence to support its position

is well organized and focused, demonstrating clear coherence and smooth progression of ideas

exhibits appropriate language, using a varied and accurate vocabulary

demonstrates varied sentence structure

is practically free of errors in sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and punctuation

Below are sample essays that received a score of 7. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

#### Sample Essay #1 - Score of 7

The decisions we make on a daily basis shape the type of person we are along with the type of person others see us as, when a child is young they are guided and do not have much of a say in decision making however as an individual gets older they are expected to start making their own decisions. Decision making can be complex for some individuals while on the other hand for some deciding what they want is

make decisions.

The choices an individual makes on a daily basis have a lot to do with cultural or

on what is acceptable and what is forbidden. Parents raise their children according to the way they think and the type of person they would like their child to become. Many parents have certain expectations from their children regarding the decisions they make based on cultural beliefs that the parents or other family members expect their child to follow and abide by. The society one lives in also has a huge impact on the decisions you make, individuals are expected to act in certain ways in certain



follow and not question since it is meant for the well being of everyone. An example of how strong a hold laws can have on a persons decision making can be seen when an individual is interested in starting their own business in Canada. There are many strict rules and a number of expectations one must complete in order to begin their own business. These regulations and restrictions often have a great impact on the

all if they are not able to live upto these expectations. Since there are usually harsh consequences when a rule or law is broken, people are scared to think or do anything other than what is set for them by the government. All in all laws and regulations limit the choices we have on a daily basis.

cultural and societal beliefs, individual circumstances and laws and regulations. We may not see it or feel it however we do not always have a choice and often our decisons have already been made for us. An individual may be confronted with many problems if they do not take anything into consideration when they make decisons, thus wanting to avoid this and the fear of consequences we do not always have a choice or say in every decision we make throughout life.

### **Annotations**

This response takes the thoughtful position that we are not always free in the choices we make because of the \_\_\_\_\_ that shape our decisions. The writing demonstrates outstanding critical thinking throughout, from the initial idea that control over decisions evolves as we age to the astute observation that \_\_\_\_\_ can dictate our choices and behaviors. In the third paragraph, the writer continues to grapple with the complexity of the

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## Sample Essay #2 – Score of 7

Everyone must start somewhere. Despite living in one of the most upwardly mobile countries in history, Americans do not have equality of origin. For example, some are born into wealth and prosperity with the whole world seemingly laid before them. They are easily able to chart a course for their life and, having the resources at hand, they can pursue that course and rise to even greater wealth and prosperity. Others are born into poverty. Their choices are more narrow and are mainly focussed on surviving day to day. This second group however, does not have to remain in the circumstances of their beginnings forever. By recognizing their situation & making the best of the choices they can make, and tenaciously pursuing responsibility for their future.

The beginning of overcoming a poor beginning is recognizing your position. In my own case, being the son of an abusive father, I was raised in poverty by my single mother. There was always a sense of hopelessness around. Not knowing it, this heading nowhere. At 15, however, I recognized that I had a choice to make in the outcome of my life. I began to ask for help from some of my teachers and I began to look for chances pursue my interests by taking classes in computers and technology. It wasn't much but by steadily making decisions that expanded my options, little by little, I began to escape the fog of hopelessness.

At 16 I realized that I would need to make a clean break from my past if I was to have any chance at a brighter future. I was in my second year of high school and my mother was going through her third divorce with an alcoholic and abusive husband. He got arrested and sent to jail for drunk driving, and she decided that she could have a better life if she uprooted my sister and I by moving to Florida with her sister. I knew this would be the path to ruin for me. I decided to take a chance on myself and tell my mother that I was not going with her. I spoke with my guidance counselor and asked for her help in telling my mother what I was going to do. Mrs. Lewis set the appointment, called an Aunt of mine who lived in the area, and set it up so I could stay

me to speak my heart about my decision and stood by me when I laid things out for my mom. In the end, my mother agreed to allow me to stay with my aunt while she moved away.

The two and a half years of high school that followed were very trying. However, by standing up for myself, and choosing to break from my past, I chose a path that ultimately lead to my having a happy marriage with a wife I love and 3 amazing

three body paragraphs, as the writer moves through the chronology of the personal example. Language use is appropriate, with accurate and varied vocabulary . Varied sentence structures

on-demand essay writing, this response receives a holistic score of 7.

**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 3**

This response displays a clear purpose and strong focus.

**Organization and Structure, Score Point 3**

This response demonstrates strong organization of ideas.

**Development and Support, Score Point 3**

This essay is logically developed and well supported.

**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 3**

This essay demonstrates skillful control of sentence structure and style.

**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 3**

Control of mechanical conventions is strong.

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 3**

This essay shows clear and reasoned analysis of the issue.

## Score of 8

### Description of Score of 8

An essay in this category demonstrates *clear and consistent mastery* of on-demand essay writing, with a few minor errors. A typical essay:

addresses an appropriate audience and demonstrates a clear purpose for writing in the thesis statement

other evidence to support its position

is well organized and clearly focused, demonstrating clear coherence and smooth progression of ideas

exhibits skillful use of language, using a varied, accurate, and apt vocabulary

is free of major errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation

Below are sample essays that received a score of 8. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

#### Sample Essay #1 – Score of 8

There are over 4 billion people on planet earth, while thousands of people are born everyday. Where the child is born, and where they are raised, is completely spontaneous and out of there control. Gordon D. Marino strongly believes that

throughout life with proper structure.

As it pertains to Gordon D. Marino s passage, there is no right or wrong answer. Granted, people are brought into unfortunate and inconvenient situations, but that doesn

University of Georgetown. He constantly enlightens his students about his past



as well. Having recently chosen to return to school for another degree, I feel emboldened and proud of this decision I am making. However, I also recognize

continued bolstering of me in college has laid the groundwork for my academic graduate school, and then considered more education, without their emotional and

In the end, we each write our own stories; we are in charge of the choices we make. One eminent psychologist said it best when he claimed, "We do not have control, but we do have choices." We do not control so many things: the decade we are born, the parents we go home with, the teachers who educate us. Yet we do have choices. We choose the clothes we wear, regardless of each decade's fashion frenzies; we choose how we relate to our parents; we choose whether or

educations. The outcome of this venture called life will always, at least partially, elude us, but as human beings, we have been given the gift of daily, personal

**Annotations**

Critical

**Purpose and Focus, Score Point 3**

This response shows a clear purpose and strong focus.

**Organization and Structure, Score Point 3**

The writer displays a strong ability to organize ideas.

**Development and Support, Score Point 3**

This essay is logically developed and well supported.

**Sentence Variety and Style, Score Point 3**

This essay demonstrates skillful control of sentence structure and style.

**Mechanical Conventions, Score Point 3**

Control of mechanical conventions is strong.

**Critical Thinking, Score Point 3**

This essay shows clear and reasoned analysis of the issue.