

eWrite

Achievement
band descriptions



Introduction

October 2023

The eWrite scale is divided into bands that cover the range of student writing achievement from year 5 to year 8, as it relates to this assessment. The eWrite scale is divided into seven bands ('Band 3 or below' to 'Band 9 or above'). The bands were established using student distribution data from the trial phase and the relative difficulty of the categories on the marking guide. They provide a way to aggregate and summarise the performance of a group of students on eWrite assessments. A class teacher might make decisions about differentiation in future writing activities based on band groupings, for example by assigning modified tasks to groups of students who scored in the same band.

Students in a band are typically able to demonstrate all the skills in lower bands. If a particular criterion is not mentioned in a band's description, teachers should interpret that as the student having demonstrated the ability to the level described in lower bands. For example, punctuation is not described in any band above Band 6, but teachers can safely assume that typical students in Bands 7, 8 and 9 and above will demonstrate mostly accurate punctuation, because the Band 6 description includes the ability to 'express ideas with accurate use of punctuation'.

Achievement band descriptions

These descriptions are general summaries of the skills demonstrated by students in each eWrite band.

Achievement band 9 and above

Scale score 580 and above

Students in this band are able to produce texts that are engaging and consistently meet the needs of a general audience. Their ideas are well-organised into paragraphs and expressed in sentences with structures deliberately chosen for specific effects. The technical aspects of language are accurate and responses are fluent. Any errors are inconsequential.

Achievement band 8

Scale score 530 to 579

Students in this band are able to produce well-structured texts with a degree of fluency. Their ideas are expressed with accurate spelling and a range of vocabulary intentionally selected to be effective. They are able to competently use punctuation within sentences. Any errors are easily read through.

Achievement band 7

Scale score 480 to 529

Students in this band are able to produce texts that are beginning to orient and engage a general audience. They express ideas using a variety of correct sentences and their texts are organised into developed paragraphs. Errors are relatively minor.

Achievement band 6

Scale score 430 to 479

Students in this band are able to express ideas with mostly accurate use of punctuation and spelling. They provide sufficient elaboration of the main ideas using precise vocabulary. Their text structures reflect an emerging awareness of the typical structures of the required text type.

Achievement band 5

Scale score 380 to 429

Students in this band produce texts that have a clear purpose and show some awareness of their audience. They express ideas in mostly correct sentences, with some elaboration, using a variety of structures and they are beginning to use punctuation within sentences.

Achievement band 4

Scale score 330 to 379

Students in this band use punctuation to separate sentences and spell most common words correctly. They are also beginning to organise their writing into paragraphs. Responses in this band may often lack detailed elaboration of ideas.

Achievement band 3 and below

Scale score less than 330

Students in this band are able to spell some common words correctly and write mostly correct simple and compound sentences using some precise words. They often assume shared knowledge between themselves and the reader, so the ideas in their writing may not be sufficiently explained and there may be little guidance or orientation for the reader.