

June 27, 2012

Subject: Release of STAAR English I Writing Scoring Guides

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

Please DO NOT reply to this e-mail.

In response to requests for additional information on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR™) English I writing prompts and the scoring of students' essays, the Texas Education Agency has made the decision to release the literary and expository scoring guides from the spring 2012 administration. Each scoring guide includes the writing prompt on which students wrote, the writing rubric used to assign scores, and examples of 16 student responses—four at each score point—that represent the level of writing performance evident on STAAR at each score point. The scoring guides are available on the Student Assessment Division's STAAR writing resources page at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/writing/>.

The decision to release the scoring guides was made to assist educators in preparing students for subsequent administrations and to help target instructional intervention. However, this release is a one-time decision that is limited to the 2012 English I writing test. The next release of STAAR is scheduled for summer 2014.

Please call the Student Assessment Division at (512) 463-9536 if you have any questions about this information.

Assessment Contact Information

Texas Education Agency

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cc: ESC and District Testing Coordinators