

English Placement Focus



CCSN

COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of SOUTHERN NEVADA

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Basic Skills Assessment at the Community College of Southern Nevada

New students enrolling at the three main campuses and 26 rural sites and high tech centers of the Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN) will be joining more than 100,000 students in the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) in an academic program requiring college-level skills in reading, writing, and computation. Students need to master these basic skills not only to accomplish college-level work but also to meet society's need for a literate, educated citizenry. Because some students admitted to the Community College of Southern Nevada lack the necessary proficiency in reading and writing to succeed in college, CCSN has designed a placement test to identify those students who could benefit from additional study in this area. Students who cannot demonstrate the level of proficiency in English expected by faculty of enrolling freshmen will be placed in special courses or programs during their first term of enrollment to increase that proficiency and mastery. This brochure provides information about the English Placement Test (EPT).

Nature and Purpose of the English Placement Test

The English Placement Test is designed to assess the level of analytical reading and writing skills of students entering the Community College of Southern Nevada. This test is to be completed by all students seeking degrees and certificates as well as those whose eventual goal is transfer to a four-year institution.

EPT Exemptions

Students are exempt if they can present proof of one of the following:

- A score of 25 or above on the enhanced ACT English Test taken within the last two years;
- A score of 525 or above on the verbal section of the College Board SAT I Reasoning Test taken within the last two years;
- Completion and transfer to CCSN of a college course that satisfies the requirement in English Composition, provided such course was completed with a grade of C or better.

EPT Placement and Design

At present, there is no charge to the student to take the English Placement Test. The test is offered on all CCSN campuses, rural sites, and high tech centers on any day the campus is open. Students who do not demonstrate requisite competence on the English Placement Test are strongly encouraged to enroll in appropriate developmental courses as soon as possible, as solid writing is a cornerstone of college (and career) success. Such courses do not convey credit toward the Associates or Baccalaureate degrees.

Since its beginning in its current form in 2004, the EPT has been given to more than 20,000 students. Of those students tested during Summer 2006, approximately 37% demonstrated proficiency in writing skills needed to succeed in college-level work. The remaining students were placed in appropriate remedial coursework. The Nevada legislature provides funding for EPT funding and also provides funding for CCSN campuses to establish developmental reading and writing programs.

Because the EPT is designed to place English in appropriate classes that will help them succeed in college-level work, it is not as difficult as some other English tests. The EPT is a placement test, not an admission or achievement test. Preliminary and ongoing evaluation of the EPT show that it measures students' abilities accurately and that it is useful to students and their advisers in selecting appropriate courses and programs.

The EPT consists of a one-hour essay.

Essay Exam: 60 Minutes

The essay portion of the test requires students to read a brief passage in which an argument is made or a position is taken. Students are asked to analyze and explain the ideas presented in the passage and then respond to those ideas in some way. Because the writing assignment requires students to analyze the passage's ideas in developing their own position on the subject, it integrates the critical reading and expository writing skills that are both essential to college-level work. Students who cannot read effectively will not be able to write an appropriate essay; they may misunderstand or misread the passage.

Essay Score

Each essay is read independently and scored holistically by two faculty members who use a scoring guide that defines levels of performance on the essay. The two readers' scores are totaled to give the student's reported essay score, which falls between scores of 1 and 6. (See page 6 for a scoring guide and sample essays.) Students must write on the assigned topic, demonstrate an understanding of the reading passage, and support their generalizations with specific reasons and examples. Such matters as clarity of thought, fluency, careful oration, development of ideas, and the use of clear and precise language all have an important influence upon the score given by each reader.

Topics are assigned randomly by the computer interface as each student takes his or her EPT. Topics are designed to allow all students to display their best writing. The topics selected are of general interest and should be accessible to all groups of EPT candidates.

An essay score of 3 or below strongly suggests that a student is not prepared for college-level writing. Such a score indicates the student should have at least one semester pre-college writing course. An essay score of 4 is borderline; we have a five-credit course available to help such students meet the demands of college reading and writing, or they may opt to take the highest-level developmental course if the five-credit course doesn't fit into their schedules. An essay score of 2 or lower may indicate the student needs a year of developmental work before taking College Composition.

How a Teacher can Help Prepare Students for the EPT

Preparation for the essay test requires that students practice essay writing by reading arguments and responding to another's position. Evidence suggests that the greatest improvement in student writing comes about when careful and sensitive evaluation of essays is followed by revision in the light of that criticism. The scoring guides and sample papers in this booklet may be of use to classroom teachers who wish to help students understand how their EPT essays will be scored.

EPT Scoring Form

Student Number _____ Date _____ WebCT ID _____

Pre-College

1-ABE A typical essay in this category may suggest an inability to comprehend or respond meaningfully to the topic; may be unfocused, illogical, incoherent, disorganized, and undeveloped; may lack basic control of syntax and vocabulary with serious and persistent errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics that severely interfere with meaning.

1.5-ESL The pattern of error may fall anywhere on this scale less than 5 and indicates the need for English language remediation.

Basic Writing

2-ENG 092 A typical essay in this category may indicate confusion about the topic or neglect important aspects of the task, using the passage appropriately in developing a response or not using the passage at all; may lack focus and coherence, often failing to communicate its ideas; may have very weak organization and development, providing simplistic generalizations without support; may have inadequate control of syntax, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and mechanics that frequently interferes with meaning.

3-ENG 098 A typical essay may distort or neglect aspects of the task, demonstrating some understanding of the passage but misconstruing parts or making limited use of it in developing a weak response; may lack focus or demonstrate confused or simplistic thinking; may be poorly organized and developed, presenting generalizations without support or details without generalizations; may have limited control of syntax and vocabulary; may have an accumulation of errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics that sometimes interfere with meaning.

College Level

4-ENG 100 A typical essay may address the topic, but may respond to some aspects of the task more effectively than others, demonstrating a generally accurate understanding of the passage in developing a sensible response; may treat the topic simplistically or repetitively; may demonstrate basic organization and development, supporting ideas with reasons and examples; demonstrates adequate use of syntax and language while displaying some syntactic variety; may have general control of grammar, usage, and mechanics.

5-ENG 113 The pattern of the writer's grammatical errors indicates some first-language interference in writing, but the student's rhetorical and organizational skills indicate readiness for 100 or 101.

6-ENG 101 A typical essay may address the topic clearly and respond effectively to the entire task, demonstrating a thorough critical understanding of the passage and exploring the issues thoughtfully and in depth; may be coherently organized and developed; has an effective, fluent style marked by syntactic variety and command of language; has an error pattern that indicates readiness for 101.

EPT Sample Essay Topic

The sample topic below is one previously used for English Placement Tests which may be similar to the topic students will be assigned in the test. (This topic was retired because it failed the “accessible to most students” criteria established on page 5, but it is still useful for showing the range of essay performance.)

Essay prompt

Read the following essay. You will have 60 minutes to plan and write an essay on the topic assigned below. Before you begin writing, read the passage carefully and plan what you will say. Your essay should be as well organized and as well developed as you can make it. When you have finished, reread your essay and make any necessary revisions.

“Remembering ‘Presleymania’”

by Dick Clark

The Man from Tupelo, Mississippi, appeared on the American music scene when young people’s musical tastes were on the verge of a major change. The older generation was not yet wary of teenagers. The kids had no music of their own.

They had yet to take over the fashion world.

Then along came Elvis. His synthesis of black, country and gospel music helped him create a simple, raw performing style. Onstage, he twisted and gyrated, much to the dismay of ‘50s parents. The more the older folks protested, the more popular the handsome Southerner became. His name was soon a household word. The mere mention of Elvis Presley, as a comedian’s punch line, would evoke howls of laughter from an adult audience.

I recall Elvis backstage at the Apollo Theater in New York City, watching with fascination the great R&B pioneers Bo Diddley and Jackie Wilson. He, in turn, would be listened to and watched by performers who worshipped him. The roots of his influence went deeply into almost all forms of rock-’n’-roll music, including blues-rock and rockabilly. Presley led not only his fans but also performers worldwide. There had never been such an idol. The world had seen Rudolph Valentino in films drive young women insane. The postwar bobby-soxers screamed for Sinatra. But before the Beatles’ popularity enveloped the earth, “Presleymania” was the biggest thing ever to hit the entertainment world.

Ironically, Presley, didn't write his own songs. He wasn't a proficient guitarist. There may even have been better vocal stylists. Nor was he adept at handling his career and business. He allowed himself to fall prey to greedy management and sycophants.

But he had that wonderful magic. Everyone copied his style. People imitated his gestures, dressed like him, wanted to be him (or his woman). He was popular with both men and women. He became the most influential solo popular artist of our time. There is no debate. ELVIS IS THE KING!

Your Essay Question:

Write an essay that explains why Elvis is so readily accepted as “the most influential solo popular artist of our time” (paragraph 5). Describe what it would take for another performer to replace Elvis. Name some candidates to be the new King (or Queen).

[Note: these are not the instructions you will have on your test; these were instructions tailored to this question. These are probably the instructions you will have on your test:]

Explain this argument and discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with this analysis. Support your position, providing reasons and examples from your own experience, observations, or reading.

Student Essays and Commentaries

Score of 6

Elvis Presley, though not an incapable man, has been noted as not being exceptional either. What was exceptional was his circumstance and his timing. If he had performed merely a few years earlier he would have met outrage instead of acceptance. A few years later and someone else (like Jerry Lee Lewis) might have beat him to the punch. He was not the first “rebel” who brought unconventional music to a wider audience. He took a subculture and made it mainstream. Since he was the first to market on his new product he had no competition.

Elvis is held to a higher esteem than any other performer because he was at the forefront of a new revolution. The independence of children from their parents. Before Elvis children were not considered entities in their own right and “teenagers” were non-existent. They were merely the property of their parents, much like women to men before and Blacks to Whites before that. Elvis became an icon of that revolution. Another reason other artists like Bo Diddley and Jackie Wilson, although forerunners of their styles, were not as popular was that they were geared towards adults. Elvis’s music was intended for the teenagers of the time. He was one of the first people to ever choose that demographic as his main audience. Later everyone would follow suit as the growing audience would gain power. From ice cream parlors to drive in movies to the dance clubs of today. But Elvis was the first. His swaying hips mocking the moral Christian values of adults and tantalizing much more open teenagers.

To say there haven’t been any new “Kings” of music would be foolish. Dr. Dre could be called the King of Rap for making rap music more commercialised. Kurt Cobain could be called the King of Alternative (and it has been said that he is the most influential artist of our generation.) Looking past music, Walt Disney took the idea of a Circus (something he considered very un-family friendly) and created Disney land. The staple of family fun in America. I believe that whenever the mass population becomes tired of their current form of entertainment it will create an opportunity for a popular sub-culture to rise and find wider acceptance. The person who brings it to the people will have his place in fame assured. But, unless we have a new revolution, Elvis will always be the King.

Commentary for 6 essay

This essay illustrates the scoring guide’s criteria for a score of 6. The superior response indicates that the writer is very well prepared to handle college-level reading and writing.

- The writer demonstrates a thorough critical understanding of the passage in developing an insightful response.
- The summary is complete and accurate.
- The writer explores the Elvis phenomenon particularly strongly; the first paragraph is particularly insightful.
- The writer understands how to organize a coherent, well-focused, logical response.
- The use of examples is more than just a list; each paragraph has cogent examples that are explained.
- The essay isn't at all free of grammatical errors, but they do not obscure the intended meaning or fluency of the response.

Score of 6

Elvis Presley, known as the king of rock and roll, had a unique style that he brought to the genre. His influence gave a new feel to rock and roll that currently existed at the time of “do-wop”. Though he was not the creator of his music, it was, and is his face that gave popularity to it. When you think of rock and roll, you automatically think of Elvis Presley, no matter what generation you are, or were in.

Although Presley did not write his own music, he did make them his own. Catchy phrases like, “My Blue Suade Shoes,” and toe-tapping melodies caught the nation by storm and made Elvis the legend that he is now known as today. His good looks and bad-boy habits had a lot to do with his success, but then success is all about pushing the envelope. Where as some artists just simply exist by following the crowd, others make their crowd, by making their own music. Elvis did this better than any known solo artist. He was the first to put sex into his performance, and that changed music forever.

Capitalizing on his music by being such a known icon only made him bigger. By starring in movies and making both his private and personal life public, the audience only grew to adore him more. His marriage, his home, his child, all made headliners, and headliners could never hurt. Being known as a ladies man made the women swoon, and seeing him marry, made them only want him more. Seeing who he married made the men envy him more as well, which kept his publicity on the sides of both genders.

To reach the level of fame and power that is Elvis Presley, an aritist today would have to recreate music as we now know it, and do it to the extent where people can't help but to love it. Music today is either rap, country, pop or hard rock. People either like it or they don't. There is yet to be someone to reach everyone on some level or another, and grasp them into their sound as Elvis did. The only artist to come close to it was Aerosmith and Run DMC with “Walk This Way.” Here, they took both sounds of their music and molded them into one of the most known songs around the world. This is what Elvis is known for, taking forms of

blues, country and rock and reshaping them into a new sound, one that all audiences could relate to.

Elvis Presley was a man who took the chances and won in the end, both in life and death. Impersonators all over the world have to work harder on being Elvis than any other singer because of his uniqueness in sound and presence. We have no need to “Remember ‘Presleymania’,” because Presleymania still exists today.

Commentary:

- The writer demonstrates a thorough understanding of the passage.
- The writer shows some depth and complexity of thought.
- The exploration of the Elvis phenomenon centers around a well-developed thesis sentence.
- Organization and development are strong, and examples are well-used and relevant.
- Although there are a number of grammatical errors, they do not interfere with meaning; they are also within the realm of grammatical instruction in 101 sections.

Score of 5

The reason Elvis is accepted as the most influential solo popular artist of our time is because he brought a new and exhilarating style to the table. Which excited and accepted the teenagers from the 50's until today. So is not hard to imagine why so many adore Elvis Presley.

And even though Elvis did not write his own music, but the way he performed and the way he made his audience feel that's what made Elvis the King of rock-and-roll. And until today no one has been able to take that title from our king. It's hard to replace someone so loved and admired as Elvis. And even though he had some dirty little secrets and some not so well liked characteristics, people saw past that and love the artist, the performer, and that man he was. Elvis Presley is considered so influential by his music and his style. Everyone wanted to be him, everyone wanted his fame and his glory, and until today he still remember by many. And specially here in Las Vegas one can clearly see that Elvis still lives, because everywhere we turn there's an Elvis imitator. And as long as we remember him, his music, his great performances and his memories he will stay with us for a long time. And so far he has stayed with us. Always remember with love and great admiration. And those who had a chance to see him perform they lived and remember the king as the true idol he was.

Today, now that Elvis is not with us, is hard to say who could take his place. Because there is no one that can equal him. He was the best and he will always be. In order for a performer to replace Elvis he or she would have to have his

carisma, some kind of new and exciting style that made everyone just go crazy, just like Elvis style did. They would have to have that magic that Elvis had in him. And he or she would have to work his way up just like he did. And since that's not going to happen any day soon, it's hard to say who could equal his talent and if ever anybody will. In today's entertainment world there's good performers but not in equal talent as the King. But if one had to choose, one would have to say that there is no match. A true Elvis fan can not equal his music or his style to another performer. There's one King and that's the only one that will always will be.

Is my opinion that no one can ever come close to what Elvis once was, and still is. He was and will be the King. I, myself enjoy his music. He was a great performer. And no one today can equal our King of rock-'n'-roll.

Commentary:

- The writer demonstrates understanding of the essay.
- The writer's exploration of the topic indicates some complexity of thought.
- The response is well-organized and well-developed.
- Although the pattern of errors is extensive, all fall within the scope of grammatical instruction for English 113.

Score of 5

Elvis is one of the popular artists in the world. He suddenly appeared and touched most people's mind. Actually, I do not have many ideas about Elvis because I was too young to listen his music when he became a popular. However, I can consider some reasons that why he became a famous.

First of all, there was no special music in America. They wanted to enjoy their life but they did not know how to do it, so people started to like him and followed him. They wanted to be Elvis. He was not only popular in America but also all over the world. Even in our country, most people imitated his style, so I know who Elvis is, even I do not know about him much. As a result, I think he was lucky because he could make people happy with his art in order to break people's boring life and make them be satisfied from desires of new music.

Second, Elvis represented not only white people's life but also all races'. Everything around him helped him to create his art. He was influenced by black people, country and gospel music. He was not only focus on his music for one race or country. Most people around the world understood his style. These days, there are many good artists in the world, but most people think that Elvis is the best artist so far. In my opinion, another performers should learn this point from Elvis to be a good artist. They have to try to understand all people and make them happy. This one is the best point that what I want to say about Elvis.

Third, I would like to mention new king or queen who has a good ability to be a famous instead of Elvis. Of course he is Korean that i want to say, not because I am from Korea, but he became a very famous artist in the world. His name is Rain. He already became a popular in Asian countries. Besides I heard good news about him these days, because he will have a concert in New York in this year. I am very proud of him. I think he has a good mind and skills that can touch people. I want him to be like Elvis and most people like him.

In conclusion, Elvis could show people's mind so he became a popular. Moreover, he made people interested. I hope that we have another hero like Elvis again and I want to see him again.

Commentary:

- The writer understands the essay.
- The writer makes a reasonable attempt to explore the topic.
- The writer understands how to organize and develop a response.
- The grammatical errors are within the score of instruction for English 113.

Score of 4

Elvis could be accepted as the most influential solo popular artist of our time because of his stage presence, his looks, his attitude, and the way he approached the style of music he played. Elvis was probably the only artist, at the time, that would ever think about doing some of the things he did. People would probably not know who he was if he did not do it the way he did. Elvis never did anything the correct way when he was up on stage, that is to the parents of that time period.

Elvis, although he was not a great musician, but he had an amazing stage presence that was obviously focused towards the younger crowd. No musician in the 50's would ever think about swinging their hips, and doing some of the other things he did on stage. Elvis was known for going wild, and crazy up on stage. That is a big reason why he is so famous.

Another big reason why Elvis became so popular was his looks. In pictures you could tell that Elvis was not a bad looking person, he was actually fairly handsome. Looks can always play a role if you want to become famous, in fact, Looks can determine whether you get a gig or not at the national level. Elvis, luckily for him, his looks helped him out. Elvis was able to attract many people, so he obviously did very well. Elvis was one of those musicians that had the right attitude. Although what he did on stage was unheard of at the time, he never seemed to cause any type of huge uproar off the stage in his prime.

Attitude can also get anyone so far in music, if they liked him as a person off the

stage, that means they liked what he did even more on the stage because they knew it would sell, and they could make money. Elvis was even good in public, and on broadcast, he was not stupid. He knew that if he did anything stupid on the air, or where anyone could see him, he could lose his career.

Another big reason for Elvis's fame would be how he approached the style of music he played. Elvis in a way almost stole blues away from the African Americans in the south, and made it cool. Elvis knew that if someone could actually get it playing through the mainstream airwaves, he would hit the jackpot. Elvis played a style that was known, but was never really embraced, and enjoyed by as many people until Elvis started to play it.

Elvis is in fact a legend, he was the first to do what he did and it forever changed popular music. It's funny to watch how parents react to this younger generation's musicians, saying they are obscene and things like that, when their parents did the same thing. Like when Christina Aguilera wore something practically see-through. I think that sometimes, parents forget that it was their hero that started it.

Commentary:

- The writer understands the essay and summarizes it well.
- The writer explores the Elvis phenomenon credibly, although most of this analysis derives from the original essay; little is original.
- The response is well-organized.
- The use of examples is thin; most are not developed.
- The grammatical errors here, particularly the deeply embedded pattern of subject restatement, is slightly beyond the scope of English 101.

Score of 4

Why was "the King" so influential in changing the music industry over the past five decades? If we look back in time some of the most idolized people in history were not necessarily the best at their particular industry.

Although what they brought was something new and refreshing that created a phenamina. Elvis was a rebel, not particularly unusual but pushed the envelope of socially accepted behavior for that time. Thus allowing change in every segment of entertainment today. Could "shock jock" Howard Stern be successful without out being outside of mainstream media? The people that grasp onto this style of performer tend to be more fanatical and far reaching. For instance the generation of parents today would probably accept his behavior as clean and desirable over a majority of artists today. He is probably so well recognized by every age group in America today because the older generation in our Country today grew up with his style of music and continue to listen today.

For a person to take over this title from Elvis they must possess the ability to create something new. That will cause a revolution that will withstand generations to come. Also they must be able to be more broad in their audience, breaking generational gaps. Some good candidates for this might be Hank Williams Jr., Cheryl Crow and Kid Rock.

In conclusion Elvis was the rebel for this time. He also made music that many people could relate to. His music will last for decades to come because he still a symbol for rebel America.

Commentary:

- The writer understood the essay.
- Again, most of this analysis derives from the original essay; it's well-summarized, but not original with the writer.
- The response is well-organized.
- There are very few examples, and they are not particularly well developed.
- The grammatical issues are fairly significant.

Score of 3

Elvis was known as the King of Rock n' Roll during his time and till this day. He's from another generation even before my time and I've heard much of his music and crazy styles. Even till this day his life has a great affect on our daily life and society. And as I must say for not living during his time, It's like he's still around twisting his feet.

The Great King of Rock had a unbelievable style that shocked and excited the groups of men and women alike. Not writing his own song or even being a proficient guitarist he's still drove his time of age off the wall. Radio and television broadcasts began playing streams of his new style of Rock n' Roll. Which was a combination of many influenced musical styles, blues rock, rockabilly, country, and even gospel.

It was his wonderful magic he had, that set him apart from any other performer of his time. He got many of his tricks from spending time with other artists. And as time went on he made them his own, to influence everyone worldwide. Even the artist that he picked up his one of a kind styles from.

Even though Elvis did live a short time as the crown. It was hard for many to believe it. So showing it in different ways. Dressing up in one of a kind Elvis costumes and impersonating his stage performances. Or saying things like, "He went back to his own planet". He's had such an impact on our society many say that

there's no debate. Elvis is the King.

And being ranked King during a time he's not present in, is going to be hard to outrank. So be it from his style, to his crazy twists on stage and all the songs that touched everyone's hearts. Elvis has earned his place in history and the King.

Commentary:

- The writer understood parts of the essay.
- Very little of this analysis is original; it also isn't summarized or paraphrased particularly well. The writer derives most of it verbatim from the essay.
- The organization is acceptable.
- Examples are scant and undeveloped.
- Language fluency and grammatical patterns require some attention.

Score of 3

Elvis Presley is considered one of the most influential, and successful artists in music, is because at the time his style of music had never been heard before, and it appealed to hearts and minds of the newer, more rebellious generation.

Elvis Presley may have not written his own music, but all that mattered to the fans was his ability to capture his audience, and bring out the "rock-n-roll" in every young boy and girl kid of his day. Presley also delivered a new show of "hip dance moves of his time, his twist and turns were the new thing that everybody wanted to learn, this only fueled his fans to watch him even more. Every generation has an idol of some sort in the music of their time. Rudolph Valentino was the ladies man of his day, Frank Sinatra was the post-war love machine of his time, and Presley was the artist who brought in the new rock-n-roll for the mid century of his time.

For another artist today to replace Elvis Presley, and his legacy, they would have to be a performer that would have to be very special in every category. Even though Elvis didn't write his own music, for this new artist to replace Elvis, he or she would have to write their own music. Today if an artist doesn't write his or her own music they're not considered a real artist. They would just be singing and playing someone else's words. They would also have to have that same magic that Elvis had to be able to be a star. One of the few artists could be considered a new king of sorts would be Tupak, if he was still alive. Even though his music wasn't rock-n-roll his style appealed to everybody all over the world he captured the young and the old. One difference Elvis Presley could not do. Tupak has been recognized as one of the greatest if not the greatest hip hop artist of his time. Tupak to this day still has music that has not been released for the public to hear. In conclusion, Elvis is considered to be the "king" is because he was able to give something people have never been given in music, the sense of freedom, that is

why he is the king, and considered the ultimate REBEL in artist the history of Rock-n-roll.

Commentary:

- The writer has some understanding of the essay.
- All of this analysis derives from the original essay. The attempts at original analysis (like throwing in Valentino) are faulty.
- The organization is thin.
- The Tupak example is well-developed, but the others are thin.
- The grammatical errors are significant.

Score of 2

Elvis is so readily accepted as the most popular solo artist because he had that wonderful magic. Everyone wanted to be him. They copied his style, imitated his gestures, dressed like him. To replace him it would take a special performer who has that wonderful magic. He would need to be influential in his time and popular with both men and woman. I cant think of any new candidates to replace him.

Commentary:

- The writer demonstrates understanding of only a small portion of the essay.
- All of this analysis derives from the original essay.
- There is absolutely no development.
- The writer uses no examples.
- The grammatical errors are less significant than the rhetorical missteps; the grammatical issues should be addressed in the course of rhetorical instruction.

Score of 2

“LONG LIVE THE KING”, MANY PEOPLE WOULD SAY BUT EVERYONE DOES NOT KNOW WHY MANY OF THE YOUNG GENERATION DID NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ELVIS BUT STRIVE TO BE AS FAMOUS AS THAT MAN. THE TIME AND ENERGY THAT HE SPENT ON HIS IMAGE HAS TRANSFORMED KIDS INTO WHEREING “BLING BLING”. HE HAS INFLUENCED YOUR STYLE AND THE WAY WE MOVE. FOR ANOTHER PERSON TO REPLACE HIM THERE WILL NEVER BE YOU CAN’T REPLACE LEGENDS.

Commentary:

- The writer demonstrates little understanding of the essay.
- All of the analysis derives from the original essay.

- There is little development.
- There are no examples.
- The writer demonstrates little familiarity with the mechanical conventions of text. These mechanical and grammatical issues should be addressed in the course of rhetorical instruction.

Score of 1.5

Why Elvis is so readily accepted as “the most influential solo popular artist of our time” Even Elvis Presley, didn’t write his own songs and also wasn’t a proficient guitarist, people all over the world loved him. For many people he became “The king of 50’s”. He had that wonderful magic. He was popular with both men and woman. He became the most influential solo popular artist of our time. People imitated his gestures, dressed like him, wanted to be him.

“Presleymania” was the biggest thing ever to hit the entertainment world. In my opinion the performer who would like to become another KING of the music, would have to have unique style. The artist would have to bring something new to the music world, that would take people’s attention. It would have to be new style that he will represent, something that will shake the whole world. He or her would have to move all people’s hearts.

There is a lots of good singers in those time, but I don’t fill that any of them might be even compare to Elvis. I think that we still have to wait for the new KING of the music, and KING of the people to come along.

Commentary:

- The writer seems to understand the essay.
- All of the analysis derives from the original essay.
- There is some development.
- These errors fall within the scope of our ESL program.

1.5

Elvis is so readily accepted as “the most influence solo popular artist of our time “ because he was unique and with the magic to have fellows. People imitated his gestures, dress like him, wanted to be like him.

Elvis was the “king”; the first performers that young people with the combination of music to made the rock-’n’-roll carture the attention of everybody at his time to be in every house conversation. Now Elvis is a legeng that everybody remember as the person who started all for young people, a new generation of music, style and popularity in the world

Replace the king is not going to be easy it will take a lot of effer bring a new style

and music to a popular world where young people feel excitement and go crazy for; like Britney Spears or Seventh Garden, Bon Jovi, or maybe somebody like Daddy Yankee who bring a new music like the reggaeton for Latinos in America. Elvis is a person who always will be remembered, even if somebody try to replace or get as much popularity as he did he still the king of rock-'n'-roll.

Commentary

- The writer seems to understand the essay.
- All of the analysis derives from the original essay.
- There is limited development.
- These errors fall within the scope of our ESL program.

Score of 1

HE IS POPULAR BECAUSE HE'S BEEN AROUND FOR A LONG TIME AND PEOPLE HEARD ABOUT THE KING OF ROCK SO EVERYONE WENT OUT AND BOUGHT HIS RECORD AND WENT TO HIS SHOWS AND SAW HIM IN PERFORMANCE THEY LOVED HIS SHOW

Commentary:

- The writer may understand part of the essay.
- All of the analysis derives from the original essay.
- There is limited development.
- There is no organization.
- There are no examples.
- The grammatical and mechanical issues are severe.

Score of 1

The Jackson 5: I like the Jackson 5 its cool they or the popular artist and solo of all time and a good performer. He write his own songs all of them. my grandma love them too she love all of their songs all of them. i like their songs too but my grandma like them more. People love them. And people love to dressed like him too. AND THEY love their career to that good too. And they was so young too now they all old

Commentary

- The writer only demonstrates understanding of part of the essay.
- There is no development or organization.
- The entire essay consists of one example from a portion of the essay. The explanation of this example (especially the end) is quite odd and is not relevant to the point this essay seems to be attempting to make.
- The grammatical issues are severe.

More on what your scores mean

101: This is the highest possible placement result. It means your writing indicates you are ready to register for English 101, College Composition. If your program requires you to take English 107, this placement enables you to do that as well.

113: This placement results allows you to register for English 113. This course is the equivalent of 101, but is specifically tailored for students whose first language is not English. This class will transfer as an equivalent of 101, but you should keep your syllabus and writing assignments; some colleges may want to see them before granting credit.

100: This is a five-credit course rather than a three-credit course; it's a version of 101 that also includes some review for students who are nearly, but not quite, prepared. Three credits will transfer as your Composition requirement; two will not, as they are considered developmental. If you placed into 100 but are not able to work a five-credit course into your schedule, you should take English 098.

098: This score indicates that you should be ready to take 101 after one semester of review and practice. This course will not transfer; it is considered developmental.

092: This is a five-credit that includes intensive review in both reading and writing.

ESL (English as a Second Language): This is the placement level that causes the most confusion because it covers the widest ground. Many people who were born in the United States and graduated from American high schools receive this placement. All this score means is that the errors you make are the sorts of errors people make if English isn't their first language. The International Languages department will conduct its own testing to see how you perform in speaking, listening, grammar, reading, and writing; many students need only one refresher course.

ABE (Adult Basic Education): These students are not quite ready to undertake college-level work and should undertake courses to prepare them at our Sahara West facility.

Unhappy with your score? You have several options:

- If you have an ACT or SAT score that is less than two years old, you may use it for placement.
- In four months, you may retake the placement test.
- If you want to retake the placement exam sooner than that, you may enroll in an English Bridge Workshop offered through the English Department and the Department of Workplace Development. Successful completion of this two-week intensive review of reading and writing will allow you to retake your Placement Test immediately.