

Basic Facts about the General Writing Assessment at Grade 10

- Students at grade 10 take a writing assessment in March.
- Students write an extended informational response (definition or cause/effect).
- Scoring of the assessment is comprised of a content component and a conventions component.
- The North Carolina General Writing Assessment measures the following in content: focus, organization, support and elaboration, and style.
- The North Carolina General Writing Assessment measures the following in conventions: sentence formation, usage, and mechanics, which includes spelling.
- Algebra I and the combination of English I and the grade 10 writing assessment are used for meeting the *No Child Left Behind Act* of 2001 (NCLB) high school testing requirements.
- Approximately two hours is allotted for this test. This includes time for test administration duties and, where appropriate, scheduled breaks.

August 2009