



Writing Sample

English Placement Appeal Fall 2017



Writing Sample Appeal exam session is held in Village 8-5.

Appointment Required

Parking: Valid parking permit is **required** on campus. Daily parking permit can be purchased from Campus Safety or the dispenser located in Parking Lot#1.

Eligibility:

- To qualify for the Writing Sample, you must have taken the Saddleback English exam (CTEP) within the last 3 months.
- Current course placement must be ENG 300/390 or ENG 200.

How to make your appointment:

- To schedule your Writing Sample exam session, call the Matriculation Office at 949-582-4970 or stop by Village 8-5.
- Please have your **Student Number** ready when calling.
- To reschedule your appointment, call or stop by the office.

Instructions:

- Plan to be present for **1 hour** for the Writing Sample exam.
- For your appointment, arrive for check-in during the hours listed on the schedule (e.g. Sept. 6 check-in between 1PM-3:30PM).

The following is required for your exam session:

- Photo ID. You **cannot** test without a Photo ID. (i.e. Driver's License, High School ID card, Passport, etc.)
- Your Saddleback College **Student Number**.

Important Information:

- Appeals are **final**. This is your final exam for English placement.
- Plan ahead. Appeal results can take **up to 5 business days**.
- The exam is on a testing lab computer (no accommodations). Students cannot use their own computer.
- No dictionaries, thesauruses, notebooks, or cell phones allowed.

ESL Writing Sample Appeal

You may be eligible if you recently tested (within 3 months) and placed into ESL 336 or ESL 345. If you qualify, an ESL Writing Sample appointment can be scheduled in person (Village 8-5) or by calling Matriculation at 949-582-4970.

Please read the back of this sheet for more information regarding the exam. If you have further questions, please contact the Matriculation Office: 949-582-4970 or visit <www.saddleback.edu/matriculation>

Exam Dates & Times

Appointment Required

Below are the available appointment dates & check-in times:

September

Wed.	6	1PM-3:30PM
Thur.	14	10AM-1:30PM
Tues.	19	1PM-3:30PM
Mon.	25	10AM-1:30PM

October

Wed.	4	1PM-3:30PM
Thur.	12	10AM-1:30PM
Tues.	17	1PM-3:30PM
Mon.	23	10AM-1:30PM

November

Thur.	2	1PM-3:30PM
Wed.	8	10AM-1:30PM
Mon.	13	1PM-3:30PM
Mon.	27	10AM-1:30PM

December

Mon.	4	10AM-1:30PM
Wed.	6	1PM-3:30PM
Tues.	12	1PM-3:30PM

Dates, times, and room locations are subject to change without notice.



Writing Sample Information

The Writing Sample allows you to appeal an English Composition course placement of ENG 300/390 or ENG 200 if you believe your initial placement does not indicate your current English proficiency. For the Writing Sample, you are required to construct a clear and persuasive response to a specific prompt.

After carefully reading the assigned passage, you will respond to the topic by writing an essay that is controlled by a central idea (your thesis) and specifically developed. You may develop your central idea using specific reference to the passage, other texts, and/or your personal experience.

You will have **60 minutes** to read the passage and complete your essay. Plan your essay before you begin writing as you may not have enough time to write a draft and a complete, finished essay. Allow time to proofread your essay and make revisions, being sure to check punctuation and capitalization. You do not need to double space between paragraphs.

Your essay will be evaluated on the basis of your ability to develop your central idea, to express yourself clearly, and to use the conventions of written English. The topic has no "correct" response.

Writing Sample essays will be read by a panel of instructors from the English Department who will score your essay, each assigning a number ranging from 1 to 6. The Matriculation Department will suggest course placement for essays assigned the following scores:

- 6** (English 1A placement): This paper commands attention because of its insightful development and mature style. It presents a cogent response to the text, elaborating that response with well-chosen examples and persuasive reasoning. The 6 paper shows that its writer can usually choose words aptly, use sophisticated sentences effectively, and observe the conventions of written English.
- 5** (English 1A placement): This paper is clearly competent. It presents a thoughtful response to the text, elaborating that response with well-chosen examples and sensible reasoning. A 5 paper typically has a less fluent and complex style than a 6 but does show that its writer can usually choose words accurately, vary sentences effectively, and observe the conventions of written English.
- 4** (English 1A placement): This paper is satisfactory, sometimes marginally so. It presents an adequate response to the text, elaborating that response with sufficient examples and acceptable reasoning. Just as these examples and this reasoning will ordinarily be less developed than those in 5 papers, so will the 4 paper's style be less effective. Nevertheless, a 4 paper shows that its writer can usually choose words of sufficient precision, control sentences of reasonable variety, and observe the conventions of written English.
- 3** (English 200 placement): This paper is unsatisfactory in one or more of the following ways. It may respond to the text illogically; it may lack coherent structure or elaboration with examples; it may reflect an incomplete understanding of the text or topic. Its prose is usually characterized by at least one of the following: frequently imprecise word choice; little sentence variety, occasional major errors in grammar and usage, or frequent minor errors.
- 2** (English 300/390 placement): This paper shows serious weaknesses, ordinarily of several kinds. It frequently presents a simplistic, inappropriate, or incoherent response to the text, one that may suggest some significant misunderstanding of the text or the topic. Its prose is usually characterized by at least one of the following: simplistic or inaccurate word choice; monotonous or fragmented sentence structure; many repeated errors in grammar and usage.
- 1** (English 300/390 placement): This paper suggests severe difficulties in reading and writing conventional English. It may disregard the topic's demands, or it may lack any appropriate pattern of structure or development. It may be inappropriately brief. It often has a pervasive pattern of errors in word choice, sentence structure, grammar, and usage.

You may obtain the results of your Writing Sample Appeal online in your MySite or in person at the Matriculation Office (Village 8-5) with a Photo ID.

If you have any questions, you may call the Matriculation Office at 949-582-4970 or visit our website at: www.saddleback.edu/matriculation