

# Master of Education (MEd) Writing Sample Rubric

Criteria	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>Organization</b>	Poorly organized paper with an unclear or illogical framework	Paper is somewhat well-organized with an obvious framework	Well-organized paper with a clear and logical framework	Extremely well-organized paper with a clear, logical and coherent framework
<b>Analysis</b>	Paper offers no or extremely limited original thought on a specified topic. Alternatively, paper offers no or only a superficial description of the practical applications related to a relevant concept, or offers a superficial description of a body of research or current event.	Paper offers limited original thought on a specified topic. Alternatively, paper offers a non-specific and general description of the practical applications related to a relevant concept, or offers a non-specific and general description of a body of research or current event.	Paper offers some original thought or a unique perspective on a specified topic. Alternatively, paper offers some description of the practical applications related to a relevant concept, or offers a summary of a body of research or current event.	Paper offers a high degree of original thought or a unique perspective on a specified topic. Alternatively, paper offers a detailed description of the practical applications related to a relevant concept, or offers a detailed and meaningful summary of a body of research or current event.
<b>Support</b>	Ideas and claims are not supported by existing literature, and/or sources are not credible	Only some ideas and claims are supported by existing literature	Most ideas and claims are supported by existing literature using credible sources	All ideas and claims are well-supported by existing literature using credible sources

<b>Communication of ideas</b>	Ideas are poorly communicated. Language is confusing, imprecise and indirect.	Ideas are communicated using somewhat precise, concise and direct language.	Most ideas are communicated using precise, concise and direct language	All ideas are communicated using precise, concise and direct language
<b>Grammar, spelling and punctuation</b>	Paper includes many mechanical errors (i.e. grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors)	Paper has some mechanical errors (i.e. grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors)	Paper is mostly free of mechanical errors (i.e. grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors)	Entire paper is free of mechanical errors (i.e. grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors)
<b>Formal tone and language</b>	Paper contains multiple uses of colloquialisms, slang, biased words, contractions, etc.	Paper generally avoids use of colloquialisms, slang, biased words, contractions, etc. although the tone is informal.	Paper is written in formal language and generally avoids use of colloquialisms, slang, biased words, contractions, etc.	Paper is written in formal language and avoids all use of colloquialisms, slang, biased words, contractions, etc.
<b>Citations and references</b>	Few ideas and claims are supported by existing literature. Incorrect or inadequate use of citations and a reference list or bibliography.	Some ideas and claims are supported by existing literature in the form of citations and a reference list or bibliography. Writing sample follows an established writing style (i.e. APA, Chicago, MLA etc.) with errors.	Most ideas and claims are supported by existing literature in the form of careful citations and a reference list or bibliography. Writing sample follows an established writing style (i.e. APA, Chicago, MLA etc.) with minimal errors.	All ideas and claims are well supported by existing literature in the form of careful citations and a reference list or bibliography. Writing sample strictly follows an established writing style (i.e. APA, Chicago, MLA etc.)