## Criterion

**Scoring Guideline: TOEFL Test**

### Score = 6

**A typical essay at this level:**
* effectively addresses the writing task  
* is well organized and well developed  
* uses clearly appropriate details to support a thesis or illustrate ideas  
* displays consistent facility in the use of language  
* demonstrates syntactic variety and appropriate word choice, though it may have occasional errors

### Score = 5

**A typical essay at this level:**
* may address some parts of the task more effectively than others  
* is generally well-organized and well-developed  
* uses details to support a thesis or illustrate idea  
* displays facility in the use of language  
* demonstrates some syntactic variety and range of vocabulary, though it will probably have occasional errors

### Score = 4

**A typical essay at this level:**
* addresses the writing topic adequately but may slight parts of the task  
* is adequately organized and developed  
* uses some details to support a thesis or illustrate an idea  
* demonstrates adequate but possibly inconsistent facility with syntax and usage  
* may contain some errors that occasionally obscure meaning

### Score = 3

**A typical essay at this level may reveal one or more of the following weaknesses:**
* inadequate organization or development  
* inappropriate or insufficient details to support or illustrate generalizations  
* a noticeably inappropriate choice of words or word forms  
* an accumulation of errors in sentence structure and/or usage

### Score = 2

**A typical essay at this level is flawed by one or more of the following weaknesses:**
* serious disorganization or underdevelopment  
* little or no detail, or irrelevant specifics  
* serious and frequent errors in sentence structure and usage  
* serious problems with focus

### Score = 1

**A typical essay at this level:**
* may be incoherent  
* may be undeveloped  
* may contain severe or persistent writing errors

---

*Created by CIEE Japan*