SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF COMPOSING & WRITTEN EXPRESSION SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Central Idea: message of the piece; most important aspect of writing	6 VDOE Prompts	7 VDOE Prompts	8 VDOE Prompts	
	New York Times Student High Interest Prompts with brief article to set context			
Essay Modes (see characteristics of each mode)	 personal narrative/essay expository essay letter description (event, place, person/character sketch, thing) 	expository essay persuasive letter/editorial	expository essay persuasive essay/opinion essay letter	
Generate Ideas: choosing an idea/position	 finding something meaningful to write about brainstorming list free writing 	mapping areas of interest	focus on keeping writing close to student interests	
Use a variety of prewriting strategies to Narrow the Idea/Position	prewriting strategies to find a topic: (nugget, not boulder) brainstorming list free writing creating a web asking questions	• strengthen 6	extend and strengthen 6	
Identify/anticipate Audience's Needs	giving necessary information	strengthen 6selecting appropriate words and details	strengthen and expand 6 and 7 use appropriate tone	
Select vocabulary and information to enhance Voice and Tone	voice is apparent; sounds like the writer	 strengthen 6 tone is present and appropriate to topic and audience 	strengthen 7 tone gives a single impression; is consistent	
Organization: reader's path of the message	6	7	8	
Organize writing including Beginning/Middle/End Distinguish between a thesis statement and a topic sentence Compose thesis statement if appropriate Communicate clearly the purpose of the writing using a thesis statement where appropriate	opening and closing appropriate to piece closing ties the piece together thesis: introduces subject	introduction/lead (establishes focus; not include details that belong in body) gets reader's attention and interest closing pulls ideas together thesis: introduces subject or argument	introduction/lead (clear central idea: slant, angle, viewpoint, position/opinion on topic) strong conclusion; more than restatement thesis: introduces the three-point thesis statement (x, y, z)	
Recognize that different modes of writing have different Organizational Patterns Arrange paragraphs into a logical order Use strategies for organization of information according to the type of writing Use transition words to show overall movement	 sequence/chronological (narrative) spatial (prepositions) guided use of appropriate graphic organizers transitions between paragraphs 	expand 6 logical order of reasons cause/effect comparison/contrast use of appropriate graphic organizers transitions between ideas in a paragraph	expand and strengthen 6 and 7; emphasis on checking that reasons clearly support opinion and are logically ordered independent selection and use of appropriate graphic organizers	
Write a multi-paragraph compositions that clearly show the Relationship of Ideas • Write a clear topic sentence on the main idea • Write a paragraph on the same topic • Write two or more related paragraphs on the same topic • Use clauses and phrases to show the relationship of ideas • Use transitions between paragraphs and ideas	 coordinate ideas in sentences: subjects, verbs, compound sentence use of and and but to join sentence ideas clustering related ideas in a paragraph transitions between paragraphs 	 strengthen 6 link ideas across sentences paragraphing that clusters related ideas; purposeful change of paragraph hook ideas from paragraph to paragraph transition between ideas within a paragraph 	• strengthen and expand 7	

Elaboration: development of the central idea	6	7	8
Expand writing to include descriptive detail to help the reader Visualize through written expression: word choice, literary techniques and vocabulary	show, not tell; create verbal picture use of imagery to appeal to reader's senses (sight, sound, hearing, smell, and taste) selective word choice: strong verbs, precise nouns, specific adjectives use of dialogue	 expand and strengthen 6 metaphor dialogue markers are natural and not repetitive, e.g., he said, she said use of figurative language: simile, personification, hyperbole, metaphor 	expand and strengthen 7
Include details that elaborate the main idea across the whole essay Essay Development Select information that elaborate the main idea Choose details that best clarify and exemplify the main idea	finding appropriate details, examples, illustrations including appropriate amount of development to create verbal picture or clearly explain eliminating ideas that are off focus	selecting and tailoring details, examples, illustrations to fit purpose including appropriate amount to create verbal picture or clearly explain eliminating development that does not enhance central idea (point the writer is making)	crafting details, examples, illustrations to fit purpose and contribute to the overall effect balancing details, examples, illustrations across paragraphs develop evidence-based arguments from texts
Include details that elaborate ideas at the sentence and paragraph level Level of Elaboration Expand and embed ideas using modifiers Use transition words for sentence variety	 sentence level: adjectives, adverbs, prepositional phrases begin paragraph level: use transitional words to signal elaboration, e.g., for example 	 sentence level: strengthen 6; adverb clauses paragraph level: use transitional words to signal elaboration, e.g., for example 	 sentence level: strengthen 7; adjective clauses, appositives paragraph level: use transitional words to signal elaboration, e.g., for example whole piece: paragraphs give a wholeness to the piece—develop the central idea
Written Expression: writer's control of language to affect the reader and achieve the writer's purpose	6	7	8
Use elements of style, including word choice and sentence variation. Sentence Rhythm Expand and embed ideas using modifiers standard coordination, and subordination in complete sentences Use clauses and phrases for sentence variety	sentence variety: use pronouns and synonyms, not repeat nouns; vary beginnings by using prepositional phrases sentence patterns: simple sentences with compound parts; compound sentences sentence variety creates a rhythm/flow to the paper	strengthen 6 sentence variety: vary sentence beginnings sentence pattern: complex sentences (adverbial clauses) appropriate mixture of indirect reporting and direct dialogue word variety: use strong verb synonyms; use precise noun synonyms instead of repeating nouns and verbs	strengthen 7 sentence variety: complex sentences with adjective clauses and appositives expanded sentence beginnings, e.g., -ing and -ed phrases sentences create a smooth and natural rhythm to paper
Consistent Use of 1st or 3rd Person	consistent use of first person, I to tell personal stories	 strengthen 6 consistent point of view within a piece of writing Use of 3rd person in an expository essays 	• strengthen 7