

**CORRELATION OF THE GENERAL RUBRIC FOR WRITING
FOR THE DELAWARE STUDENT TESTING PROGRAM (DSTP)
AND HOW TO WRITE CLEAR SENTENCES: A SELF-PACED TEXT**

Delaware assigns weight to scores on the writing test that is part of the DSTP. The weight on the writing test, combined with the weights on the other tests that are part of the program, is used to determine a high-school “diploma index.” Students who attain a diploma index of 3.0 or above earn a standard diploma. Students failing to attain a 3.0 or above earn a basic diploma.

Writing is evaluated in two ways within the DSTP. First, students are asked to provide a written response to a writing prompt. Second, students are asked to write a short essay responding to a question about a reading passage. Both writings are evaluated according to the General Rubric for Writing for All Grades. *How to Write Clear Sentences: A Self-Paced Text* directly relates to the following traits identified in the rubric¹.

Writing Trait	Reference in <i>How to Write Clear Sentences: A Self-Paced Text</i>
Use of complete sentences	Units 1, 2, and 3
Variety in sentence structure	Units 2 and 3
No errors in sentence formation	Units 1, 2, 3, and 6
Standard use of verbs	Unit 5
Correct agreement of subject and verb	Unit 4
Standard use of pronouns	Unit 7
Standard use of punctuation	Unit 8
Standard use of capitalization	Unit 9

¹ *How to Write Clear Sentences: A Self-Paced Text* directly relates to the use of appropriate development strategies; the use of smooth transitions; and the clear and logical progression of ideas. These three criteria are also part of the General Rubric for Writing for All Grades.