

Lakes Region Community College – English Placement Test

The LRCC Assessment Test in Writing (ATW) is a standardized writing test that measures your ability to do college-level writing in English and assesses your readiness for our English Composition course.

This is a low-stakes assessment intended to place you in the course that will provide you with the best support to be successful. It is therefore important that you avoid using online grammar tools such as Grammarly, other Internet resources, or having another person write your essay response.

There are two English Composition courses, **English Composition** and **Co-requisite English Composition Workshop**. If you receive a score of 4 or below, you will be required to register for English Composition and the Co-requisite English Composition Workshop. The Co-Requisite English Composition Workshop provides an additional 1 ½ hour support to ensure successful completion of English Composition, the required course to meet graduation requirements.

The **Corequisite Workshop** will provide support for your reading and writing, as well as provide you with an opportunity get additional support and assistance with the tasks assigned in your English Composition course. There is no additional cost for this workshop, grade is determined by attendance, and is Pass/Fail.

You will be required to complete the test in one sitting in which you will have **60 minutes** to plan and type your essay response to the given writing prompt found on the second page.

Once completed, save the file as a Word doc or docx file, attach it to an email, and send it to the following address: lrcenglishplacement@ccsnh.edu. Address the Subject heading as: **LRCC English Placement Test**. You will receive a short reply stating the placement test has been received and will be evaluated.

Assessment will be determined on a 1-8 scale and will be assessed accordingly:

Course	ATW Score Range	SAT Reading and Writing
Placement in English Composition	5 ≥	450 ≥
Placement in Corequisite English Composition	2 to 4	400-450

Content	The essay demonstrates a clear and critical understanding of the topic. It develops a clear, original thesis statement that provides for a thought-provoking discussion of the topic. The body paragraphs provide adequate supporting arguments, evidence, examples, and details. It begins and ends effectively, making use of introductory and concluding strategies.
Mechanics	The essay uses clear language that is relatively free of errors in grammar, punctuation, word choice, spelling, and sentence structure. There are few, if any, run-ons, fragments, confused word errors, contractions, or faulty parallelisms.
Organization	The essay's organization guides the reader forward through effective transitions between paragraphs, ideas, and examples. It is relatively easy to follow. Details are presented and connected thoughtfully, while clearly defining and supporting the thesis.
Style	The subject or approach is original, creative, and interesting and is expresses its purpose clearly and persuasively. The tone of the essay is directed towards and meets the needs of the defined audience. The words and ideas are not vague and abstract, but detailed and specific. There should be no clichés and no use of slang (unless appropriate for tone).

Instructions

Type your full name and LRCC ID number at the top of your page. Select *one* of the three writing prompts to carefully read and then construct an essay in which you answer the assignment for the prompt.

Writing Prompts

Carefully consider the following excerpt:

A man who commits himself, and who realizes that he is not only the individual that he chooses to be, but also a legislator choosing at the same time what humanity as a whole should be, cannot help but be aware of his own full and profound responsibility.

Adapted from Jean-Paul Sartre

Assignment: To what degree are people's individual actions an extension for how they should act toward humanity? Construct an essay in which you critically respond to this issue. Support your position with reasoning and evidence taken from your readings, studies, experience, and observations.

Carefully consider the following excerpt:

The paradox of education is precisely this – that as one begins to become conscious one begins to examine the society in which he is being educated. The purpose of education, finally, is to create in a person the ability to look at the world for himself, to make his own decisions.... But no society is really anxious to have that kind of person around.

Adapted from James Baldwin

Assignment: Should the primary purpose of education be to encourage criticism or agreement with society? Construct an essay in which you critically respond to this issue. Support your position with reasoning and evidence taken from your readings, studies, experience, and observations.

Carefully consider the following excerpt:

“Learning how to think” really means learning how to exercise some control over how and what you think. It means being conscious and aware enough to choose what you pay attention to and to choose how you construct meaning from experience.

Adapted from David Foster Wallace

Assignment: To what degree do our daily habits and thoughts affect our awareness of issues that occur in the world? Construct an essay in which you critically respond to this issue. Support your position with reasoning and evidence taken from your readings, studies, experience, and observations.