

HiSET Writing Test

Checklist for an Argumentative Essay

On the essay test, you will be asked to state your position on an issue using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Here is a list for you to return to for ideas about what to focus on as you work on your writing. If you want to, you can save or print a copy to use as a checklist.

Have seen	Have practiced	As you present an argument (or "main idea") that addresses their writing prompt (the <i>specific</i> question they ask you) this is what they are looking for:
		Development of a central position
		Context (what's the bigger picture, or the scenario)
		Discussion alternate claims and/or counterclaims
		The writer's own position
		Reasons, examples and/or details support ideas
		Evidence drawn from provided texts
		Organization
		Introduction and conclusion
		Paragraphing
		Transitions
		Logical sequencing of ideas
		Language skills
		Word choice
		Varied sentence length and complexity
		Formal style, objective tone and counterclaims are discussed fairly
		Conventions of Standard English grammar and usage
		Grammar, usage and mechanics
		Capitalization, punctuation and spelling