

The Placement test Writing and Speaking responses are evaluated by Avant's Valid-certified Raters using the rubric shown below. Scoring reflects a test taker's language ability according to Benchmark Levels that are based on national standards. As shown below, the resulting score can be in the zero to seven range. Text type is the main criteria for determining Writing and Speaking scores.

The scores are available to educators on the Test Results screen (see the Placement Reporting Guide for more information). Scores are not provided to test takers.

Placement Rubric
Discourse Level
<p>(7) - Multiple Paragraph/Extended Discourse: Student language production at this level is identified by samples that are written/spoken mostly at the extended paragraph level with evidence of a variety of cohesive devices and organizational patterns. Advanced evidence of cohesion is evident by use of a variety of connecting or cohesive devices. Vocabulary is clear, specific and natural. Language is smooth and natural in delivery and without noticeable errors.</p>
<p>(6) – Paragraph Structure: Student language production at this level is identified by samples that are written/spoken mostly at the structured paragraph level with occasional linked or connected paragraphs. Extended evidence of cohesion is evident by use of multiple connecting or cohesive devices as well as the use of extended vocabulary and advanced accuracy.</p>
<p>(5) – connected Sentences: Student language production at this level is identified by samples that are written/spoken mostly at the linked or connected sentences level with some occasional paragraph structure. Some evidence of cohesion is evident by use of simple connecting or cohesive devices.</p>
<p>(4) – Strings/Extended Sentences: Student language production at this level is identified by samples that are written/spoke mostly at the strings-of-sentence level with occasional connected sentences.</p>
<p>(3) – Simple Sentences: Student language production at this level is identified by samples that are written/spoken mostly at the formulaic sentence or simple sentence level.</p>
<p>(2) – Phrases: Student language production at this level is identified by samples that are written/spoken mostly at the phrase level.</p>
<p>(1) – Words: Student language production at this level is identified by samples that are written/spoken mostly at the word/list-of-words level.</p>
<p>(0) – Non-Ratable: Little or no written or spoken language; no response; inappropriate response</p>