

Design Guide for Scoring Criteria

Traits of Scoring Criteria	Weaker Statements	Stronger Statements
Are your criteria task neutral?	lists tasks or elements specific to this assessment	can be applied to a variety of assessments and tasks
	ex: Analyzes the Articles of Confederation and Constitution for similarities and differences	ex: Analyzes primary sources documents independently and in relation to other primary source documents
Does the criteria use a clear taxonomy of thinking skills? Does the level of thinking expressed in the "meets"	uses verbs not included on taxonomies of thinking (such as understands)	applies the levels of thinking in a chosen taxonomy (Bloom's, Webb's, etc.) consistently
match that of the Performance Indicator?	uses verbs from different level of thinking than that of the Performance Indicator to describe "meets" work	
Have you included all elements of the Performance Indicator?	leaves out elements of the Performance Indicator	includes all elements of the Performance Indicator
Does the criteria describe complexity and quality rather than frequency?	emphasizes only frequency rather than cognitive demand	describes what a student knows and is able to do at each level of proficiency
	ex: criteria include use of rarely, never, frequently, 1,2,3, etc.	
Does the criteria describe the complexity and quality positively?	at "partially meets" or "does not meet" levels, describes only deficiencies in student work rather than what a student can do.	describes what a student includes and does at each level of proficiency

