

## Rubric for Scoring Science Writing Prompt

- 6 Points** The writing is focused and purposeful; has logical progression of ideas; and has development of support with substantial specific, relevant examples. Sentence structure is varied, and few, if any, convention errors occur in mechanics, usage, punctuation and spelling. Clear and elaborate explanation of application of atomic number, groups/families, and periods. Clear and elaborate example of a correct substitution of elements (i.e., Y for La).
- 5 Points** The writing is focused and purposeful; has logical progression of ideas; and has development of support with several specific, relevant examples. Sentence structure is varied, and few convention errors occur in mechanics, usage, punctuation and spelling. Clear explanation of application of atomic number, groups/families, and periods. Clear example of a correct substitution of an element.
- 4 Points** The writing is focused on the topic and includes few, if nay, loosely relate ideas. An organizational pattern is apparent. Support is present, but lacks specificity. General conventions of mechanics, usage, punctuation, and spelling are followed. Writing includes an explanation of atomic number, groups/families, and periods. Reference to a correct substitution of an element.
- 3 Points** The writing is focused but contains ideas that are loosely connected. Organization is apparent, but lapses in logical progression is evident. Development of support is uneven and inconsistent. General conventions of mechanics, usage, punctuation, and spelling are followed. Writing includes reference to atomic number, groups/families, and periods. Vague reference to appropriate substitution of an element.
- 2 Points** The writing addresses the topic but loses focus by including extraneous or loosely related ideas. Beginning, middle, and ending sections are present, but may be brief. The development of support is erratic and inconsistent. Errors occur in the conventions of mechanics, usage, punctuation, and spelling are followed. Writing includes reference to two of these: atomic number, groups/families, and periods. No reference or incorrect example of appropriate substitution of elements.
- 1 Point** The writing addresses the topic but loses focus by including extraneous or loosely related ideas. The organizational pattern lacks a beginning, middle, and/or end. There is little, if any, development of supporting ideas. Frequent and blatant errors may occur in general conventions of mechanics, usage, punctuation, and spelling are followed. Writing does not includes reference to atomic number, groups/families, or periods. No reference or incorrect example of appropriate substitution of elements.
- Unscorable** Response is not related to the prompt.  
Response is simply a rewording of the prompt.  
Student refused to write  
Response is illegible  
Response is incomprehensible