

## **TCAP Writing Assessment**

The Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) Writing Assessment requires students to write a rough draft essay in response to an assigned prompt (topic) within a limited time period. Eleventh grade students respond to a persuasive prompt. The purpose of persuasive writing is to convince or influence the reader to agree with the writer. In well-written persuasion, the topic or issue is clearly stated, and the arguments are developed through the use of facts and examples. A writer may present the other side of an issue but must support his/her position clearly. Papers are scored holistically using a six-point [scoring rubric](#).

This assessment is administered in February. It is part of the NCLB standards used to evaluate a school's effectiveness. The test for 2007-2008 is scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup>, with the makeup to be given on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Scoring Rubric**

Scores from 6 (the highest) to 1 reflect the range of excellence in the papers written in response to the assignment. Anchor and sample papers illustrate both the limits and the diversity within each score level. The following broad categories define the score ranges for the writing assignment and for the range of skills among students responding.