

**PART III: DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION**  
**PART B — ESSAY**  
**GENERIC SCORING RUBRIC\***

4

- Answers all aspects of the task by using the documents and may bring in relevant outside information related to the documents
- Consistently uses accurate data
- Develops ideas fully, using such supporting evidence as examples, reasons, details, explanations, and generalizations that are relevant and appropriate
- Demonstrates a logical plan of organization and coherence in the development of ideas
- Consistently expresses ideas clearly

3

- Answers most aspects of the task by using the documents
- Generally uses accurate data
- Develops ideas satisfactorily with adequate supporting evidence
- Develops an answer, using a general plan of organization
- Generally expresses ideas clearly

2

- Answers some aspects of the tasks by using some of the documents
- Uses some accurate data
- Demonstrates weakness in development of ideas with little supporting evidence
- Attempts to organize an answer but is weak and goes off the topic
- Attempts to express ideas clearly

1

- Does not use information to support ideas or uses information which is not relevant
- Shows limited understanding of the task
- Fails to use documents or only vaguely refers to the documents
- Lacks a plan of organization
- Does not express ideas clearly

0

- Uses no accurate data
- Fails to answer question or response is totally unrelated to topic
- Illegible or so many words cannot be read that no sense can be made of the response
- Blank paper
- Is incoherent; i.e., words are legible but syntax is so garbled that no sense can be made of the response

\* On an actual examination, the generic rubric in the rating guide will be replaced by a subject-specific version to further help teachers reliably score this portion of the test.

PART III: DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

PART B

PART B — ESSAY

Use the ideas you listed in Part A (Notes) to write an essay about the people of Rose, New York, and their post office.

In your essay remember to:

- tell how the people of Rose felt about their post office
- give three examples of what the people did together as a community, or separately as citizens, to help their post office.

Score Level 4

My composition is about the people of Rose, New York and their post office. In June, 1985, the people of Rose were told that the United States Postal Service planned to close their post office.

This meant that the people of Rose would have to get their mail from a different town's post office. This also meant they would have post office services three hours a day. Now, the people liked their post office, but when they heard this, they were angry.

The community start a group called "Friends of the Rose post office". Some citizens went to a meeting to voice their concern, and others sent complaints to the Postal Service.

On Saturday, October 12, 1985

-(over)-

the Postal Service finally said that the town of Rose could keep their post office. After that, the people started fixing the post office. They fixed the roof, walls, and the post office sign. By Thursday, April 21, 1994 the post office was fixed.

That is my composition on Rose, N.Y. and their post office. This composition shows that cooperation and hard work make things happen.

**Commentary  
Score Level 4**

- Answers all aspects of task including a description of citizens' feelings and more than three examples of community action from at least four documents
- All data is accurate
- Develops ideas fully by using examples, details, and relevant generalizations
- Uses a logical plan of organization
- Consistently expresses ideas clearly

The people of Rose felt sad because their Post Office was with them since 1827 and now they were going to lose it forever. They held a lot of meetings, deciding about what they might be able to do to save their Post Office. They also put up a lot of flyers talking about the people who are closing their Post Office.

They also put up a poster that said, all the friends of the Rose Post Office may come to an Preservation. The Postal Service of Rose says "There is no indication of adverse social or economic effect that would be felt by the community with the proposed closing of the Rose Post Office." There were ninety one concerned citizens that attended a meeting to voice their concerns to the Postal Service Representative.

Some workers went to the Post Office in the freezing rain to replace the old shingles with the new ones. The directors for the friends of the Rose Post Office, put their stamp of approval on the sign being replaced at the Rose Post Office. The Postal Service

than proposed to consolidate the Rose Post Office under the North Rose Postmaster, and operate on a reduced schedule. At one time there were should but the became so tall that they obliterated the dates on the monument but since they have been cleared off, flowers have been planted.

**Commentary  
Score Level 4**

- Answers all aspects of task, citing seven examples of citizen action and description of citizens' feelings
- Data is accurate with many direct references to four documents, including direct quotes, to support ideas
- Develops and organizes ideas well
- Expresses ideas clearly

The people of Rose were concerned, angry, and sad that the post office was leaving. Since the post office had been there for such a long time the people were sad because they wanted it to stay even longer. To help the post office people change their minds the people of Rose did some nice things for the post office and its workers. They had meetings to tell the post office workers how they felt and told them to stay. They said that they wanted to have a post office near by them and not far away.

To help the workers change their minds a dozen people helped to build a new cedar shingle roof because the old one was torn and much shabby.

had fallen off them. Many people of the community also decided to write letters to the workers and some people also called on the phone to tell them how sad they were that the post office was leaving. Students from North Rose Wolcott High School also wanted the post office to stay so they helped make a new sign to replace the old one. Arlene Case made a triangular flower bed in front of the post office where shrubs were covering the date on a monument. Since she has cleared the shrubs she says she'll take care of the new flowers.

From all the efforts of the people of Rose the post office stayed. The people were very happy and excited that what they did made a difference. Even though the people of Rose did so many nice things the post office still needed some improvements.

**Commentary  
Score Level 4**

- Answers all aspects of task, citing five examples of citizen action and providing a thorough explanation of citizens' feelings
- All data is accurate with references to six documents
- Develops ideas fully, providing details: Wolcott High School students, Arlene Case, etc.
- Organizes ideas to demonstrate a logical plan, ending with a strong conclusion
- Expresses ideas clearly

### Score Level 3

The people of Rose felt as if they needed to fight to get the post office back in business. The Rose NY Post office has been since 1827. The people of Rose NY had a right to want to keep it standing. The people also thought it was unfair that they had to go to another town to get their mail. The post office in the other town was only open for the people of Rose three or four days a week. They started helping by holding meetings to see how they could help. After a while they decided what to do. They invited the people to a dinner party. Everyone had to bring something to pass around at the table. After dinner they had elections. Guess who won? The people of Rose NY won. Their old post office stayed standing.

#### Commentary Score Level 3

- Answers most aspects of task by explaining the residents' feelings and citing two examples of community action
- Uses accurate data taken from at least three documents and demonstrates a general understanding of the documents
- Develops ideas with adequate support
- Uses a general plan of organization to explain the problem, the community action, and its result
- Generally expresses ideas clearly

The people of Rose New York had a tough situation on their hands the tax people wanted to close down their post office which means they would have to go far out of their way to go to a post office that is only open 3 days out of a seven day week. So the people of Rose knew they would have to take matters in their own hands. The people of Rose went to council meetings on what they should do, they fought with them they also fixed the post office they got the High School art department to help and the people of Rose New York did want to get rid of something that has been with them ever since 1847 and they weren't gonna let the outsiders on what to do with their community and town property post office so they still had meetings and they continued to pay higher postal rates yet the postal

Service now wants to close our post office and reduce service to the commu- then all those hard workers and letter and phone calls paid off so now the people of the town had a town meeting and elections on Monday, February 10th, 1992 the people of Rose New York got what they wanted.

**Commentary  
Score Level 3**

- Meets most aspects of task by citing four examples of citizen action, but provides weak description of citizens' feelings
- Generally uses accurate data, with one exception: attributes postal closing to "tax people"
- Develops ideas with adequate support, using nonspecific references to four documents and few details
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization with a conclusion sentence
- Expression of ideas is not consistently clear, yet is understandable

### Score Level 3

In Rose the people felt mad and tried to help the post office. The people of Rose put signs up, yell and scream, They wanted a separate post office, they made the community to try to convince the people to not close it down. They made all those letters and phone calls just to have their post office back. They fix the roof on the post office. There were shrubs on the roof but they fix it. They planted a hole lot of flowers by the house post office. They put a new sign up on the post office. Last fall the sign was removed, because was in bad shape, it need to be scraped, painted, and lettered. They sign was undertaken by the art of the North Ros Wolcott High School.

#### Commentary Score Level 3

- Answers all aspects of task by describing how residents felt and providing adequate examples of citizen action
- Generally uses accurate data with one exception: "shrubs on the roof"
- Ideas are developed with accurate support, yet detail and explanation are lacking
- Most ideas are expressed with clarity and a general plan of organization is evident