BUDDY²
THE NExT GENERATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Scoring Guide Tutorial
http://www.thewritingsite.org/

Disclaimer: This tutorial is created and maintained by the Buddy System Project under the administration of the Corporation for Educational Technology. Buddy is funded by the Indiana General Assembly through the Indiana Department of Education. The views expressed in this tutorial or at this site do not necessarily reflect the views of the Indiana Department of Education and are solely the responsibility of the Buddy authors.

Step One:

There are three major areas on the scoring page:
1. **Student Writing Sample**: authentic samples for practice in holistic scoring
2. **Scoring Area**: includes a section for scoring "Writing Applications," "Language Conventions" and "Overall Score."
3. **Title**: includes grade level, genre, title of paper and option for scoring other samples.

Step Two:

The upper left-hand area displays the following:
1. **Description of Paper**: this description includes the grade level, genre and title of paper.
2. **Instructions**: you can access these instructions at any time while you practice scoring or viewing the scoring results.
3. **View Transcription**: when you select this option you can read a typed transcription of this paper.
4. **View the Prompt**: in order to accurately assess the student sample, you should select this to determine how well the student responded to the writing prompt.
5. **View ISTEP+ Rubrics**: you can download and/or print the ISTEP+ rubric for help as you evaluate and score the sample.

Step Three:

This upper right-hand area displays the following:
1. **Score another Sample**: you can select up to six different student samples to score. These samples are not listed from low score to high score; instead, they are listed randomly.
2. **View Framed Version**: there is an option to view the "Practice Scoring" section as framed or non-framed version.

Step Four:

Whenever a question mark appears in the rating area, you can select this to find rating tips for that area.

Step Five:

Tips for rating writing applications are included for this step:
1. **3-5th Grade Rating Areas**: there are three areas to rate for these grade levels including ideas & content, organization and style.
2. **6-8th Grade Rating Areas**: there are four areas to rate for these grade levels including ideas & content, organization, style and voice.
3. **Select a Rating for Each Area**: each area includes five rating selections including very strong, strong, adequate, weak and very weak. If you need help rating any area, access the question marks for tips.

Step Six:
      Here are language conventions and overall scoring tips:
1. **Language Conventions**: if you perceive any of the language conventions as strengths, place a check mark next to the strong area(s). If you need help scoring any area, access the question marks for tips.
2. **My Overall Score**: select a score from 1-6 on writing applications and from 1-4 on language conventions. If you need more help deciding how to score, refer to the ISTEP+ rubrics.
3. **Submit**: once you have completed scoring all areas, select submit.

Step Seven:
      When you submit your scores, you are taken to the "Scoring Results" page, which is divided in four areas:
1. **Title**: includes grade level, genre, title of paper and option for scoring other samples.
2. **Writing Applications**: you can compare and contrast how you scored the student sample with an expert's score.
3. **Language Conventions**: compare and contrast how you scored the sample to the expert's score.
4. **Rationales**: read the expert's rationale for scoring each area.

Step Eight:
      Here is a brief description for this area:
1. **Description of Paper**: this description includes the grade level, genre and title of paper.
2. **Instructions**: you can access these instructions at any time while view the scoring results.
3. **Writing Applications**: compare and contrast how you scored the sample to the expert's score.

Step Nine:
      In this area of "Scoring Results" you will see:
1. **Score another Sample**: you can select up to six different student samples to score. These samples are not listed from low score to high score; instead, they are listed randomly.
2. **Language Conventions**: compare and contrast how you scored the sample to the expert's score.

Step Ten:
      For every scoring area, the expert has written scoring rationales. This is the most important instructional resource for this tutorial on holistic writing assessment. Carefully read these rationales.

Step Eleven:
      In this area of "Scoring Results" you will see:
1. **Compare Your Score**: next to each rationale, you can view your score and compare it to the expert's score.
2. **Compare with Another**: for further instruction you can view another student sample that was
   scored the same. These comparison papers include scoring rationales.
3. **Review Paper**: as you read the scoring rationales, you may want to access the student paper to compare how the rationale addresses the strengths and weaknesses of the sample.
4. **View Rubric**: you can download and/or print the ISTEP+ rubric for help as you evaluate the scoring of the sample.