2018 NYSESLAT Writing Rubric—Grades 3–4						
Dimension		Score 0 – Entering A response at this level:	Score 1 – Emerging A response at this level:	Score 2 – Transitioning A response at this level:	Score 3 – Expanding A response at this level:	Score 4 – Commanding A response at this level:
Complexity of Language		 Contains zero or few words or short phrases Is blank Is completely in a language other than English Is illegible or unintelligible Is completely copied text Is isolated words or a list of words or short phrases 	 Contains some words, short phrases, and occasionally simple sentences Includes at least one sentence May include adapted text in a well-constructed sentence 	 Contains mostly simple sentences Includes at least one expanded or complex sentence 	Contains simple, expanded, and complex sentences	Contains a variety of simple, expanded, and complex sentences
Quality of Language		Contains at most frequently used Tier 1 words or predictable phrases	Contains Tier 1 and common grade-level Tier 2 words and short phrases	Contains Tier 1 and a few grade-level Tier 2 words and phrases	Contains Tier 1 and some grade-level Tier 2 words and phrases	Contains Tier 1 and many grade-level Tier 2 words and phrases
Coherence of Response		Lacks a clear introduction, or development of a thought or an idea, or completion due to brevity	Includes at least one sentence to introduce, develop, or complete thoughts or ideas	Includes words and sentences that provide a limited introduction, development, and/or completion of linked thoughts, ideas, or both	Includes words and sentences that provide an introduction, development, and completion of linked thoughts, ideas, or both to provide partial organization	Includes words and sentences that provide an introduction, development, and completion of linked thoughts, ideas, or both to provide clear and sufficient organization
Degree of Response	SCR	Lacks descriptions of ideas or facts	Includes at least one description of an idea or a fact	Includes some minimally detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both	Includes many detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both	Includes many sufficiently detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both
	ECR Narrative	Lacks development of descriptions or events	Includes at least one description or event	Includes some detailed descriptions and/or two or more events in sequence	Includes many detailed descriptions and events in sequence	Includes many and varied detailed descriptions and events in sequence
	ECR Informational	Lacks development of connected ideas	Includes at least one original idea or two ideas that are connected	Includes some supported and/ or connected ideas	Includes many supported and connected ideas	Includes many and varied supported and connected ideas
Mechanics		Contains numerous errors that totally obscure meaning Contains words that are unclear	 Contains many errors that often obscure meaning Contains words that may be unclear, but meaning is evident May include inventive spelling 	 Contains some errors that occasionally obscure meaning Is mostly clear May include inventive spelling 	 Contains few errors that rarely obscure meaning Is clear May include inventive spelling 	 Contains minimal or no errors that obscure meaning Is clear May include inventive spelling

Note: Responses that are **completely irrelevant** to the prompt can be scored no higher than a 1.