

**Education Bureau**  
**Territory-wide System Assessment 2026**  
**Secondary 3 English Language Writing – Marking Scheme**

| Score Level | Content                                                                                                                         | Language                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                   | Features                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All relevant content</li> <li>Ideas expressed effectively/ clearly</li> </ul>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses a good range of vocabulary and language patterns</li> <li>Very few or no errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation and capitalisation</li> </ul>                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                               |
| 3           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most or all relevant content</li> <li>Ideas related to the topic with details</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses a range of vocabulary and language patterns</li> <li>A few minor errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation and capitalisation</li> </ul>                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                               |
| 2           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some relevant content</li> <li>Some ideas expressed with details</li> </ul>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses familiar vocabulary and simple language patterns</li> <li>Some errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation and capitalisation which do not affect meaning</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraphs developed with supporting details /description</li> <li>Coherent links within/between paragraphs and effective use of connectives</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Features generally used correctly (e.g. letter format, description and speech in narration)</li> </ul> |
| 1           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Content limited/some relevance to the topic</li> <li>Ideas lack details</li> </ul>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses a limited range of vocabulary and language patterns</li> <li>Many errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation and capitalisation which affect meaning</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraphs generally developed based on prompts</li> <li>Use of simple connectives and sequencers (and, but, first, then, etc)</li> </ul>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some basic features used (e.g. appropriate greeting and ending in a letter)</li> </ul>                 |
| 0           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Content undeveloped</li> <li>Irrelevant ideas</li> </ul>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses few or no language patterns</li> <li>Numerous errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation and capitalisation which affect meaning</li> </ul>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraphs lack organisation/details</li> <li>Scattered ideas with few connectives</li> <li>Incomprehensible</li> </ul>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic features not evident</li> </ul>                                                                  |

**Remarks for Score Levels**

|                     |       |       |       |       |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Answers < 100 words | • ≤ 2 | • ≤ 2 | • ≤ 1 | • ≤ 1 |
| Off-topic scripts   | • 0   | • ≤ 2 | • ≤ 2 | • 0   |

RESTRICTED