

# Condition Codes for the ELA Writing Extended Response

The performance task for English language arts/literacy (ELA) includes a Writing Extended Response (WER) item, sometimes referred to as the “full-write”, that requires students to synthesize information from multiple sources to produce one extended written response. The WER is scored for three dimensions of writing—purpose, focus, and organization; evidence and elaboration; and conventions. These items are scored analytically based on rubrics, and readers assign a score based on each dimension.

WER scores are available to educators in the California Educator Reporting System (CERS) Individual Student Report, as well as to local educational agency (LEA) coordinators in the Student Score Data File. If a student receives a score of zero on a dimension, it will be accompanied by a condition code identifying the reason for the score of zero.

## CONDITION CODES AND CATEGORIES

# B

**Blank**

No Response

# I

**Insufficient**

If a student has not provided a meaningful response, they will receive a WER condition code of **Insufficient**.

This condition code is used if the student’s original work is insufficient for the rater to make a determination as defined in the rubrics, or the response is too brief.

An insufficient response may consist of the following:

- Random keystrokes or undecipherable text
- “I don’t know, IDK”
- “I like pizza!”  
(in response to a reading passage about helicopters)

**L**

**Nonscorable  
Language**

In order to maintain the construct of the assessment, constructed response items on the ELA assessment must receive a response in English in order to be scored. If a response is received in a language other than English, the item will receive a condition code of **Nonscorable Language**.

**T**

**Off-Topic**

If a student provides a response that is unrelated to the task or sources, or shows no evidence that the student has read the task or the sources, they will receive a condition code of **Off-Topic**.

**M**

**Off-Purpose**

If a student has clearly not written to the purpose designated in the task, they will receive a condition code of **Off-Purpose**.

Off-purpose responses address the topic of the task but not the purpose of the task.

