WHAT TEA SAYS AT EACH SCORE

ONE EXACT TEA NOTE PER SCORE • STAAR ECR

TEA RELEASED ECR SCORING GUIDES • SPRING 2026 • GRADE 4, GRADE 7 AND ENGLISH I

2026 IS THE MOST RECENT YEAR WITH A SCORING NOTE AT EVERY SCORE FOR ALL THREE TESTS • WORDS COPIED EXACTLY

TEST	SCORE 0	SCORE 1	SCORE 2	SCORE 3	SCORE 4	SCORE 5
Grade 4	The response lacks focus, organization, or purposeful development. TEA p. 10, Response 1	The response is brief and exhibits only minimal organization and focus. TEA p. 12, Response 1	The organizational structure is weak, consisting only of two sentences. TEA p. 14, Response 1	The organizational structure in this response is limited, but transitional phrases help connect ideas TEA p. 16, Response 1	A purposeful structure that includes an introduction and conclusion is present. TEA p. 19, Response 1	The organizational structure is effective, with a clear introduction, logically ordered body paragraphs, and a concluding statement that reinforces the central idea. TEA p. 23, Response 2
Grade 7	An organizational structure is not evident, as the response lacks an introduction and a conclusion. TEA p. 11, Response 1	There is a brief, perfunctory introduction and a very limited conclusion TEA p. 13, Response 1	The response does not include a substantial introduction or conclusion, and ideas are without logical progression because of very minimal sentence-to-sentence connections. TEA p. 15, Response 1	The organization is minimal but does include a brief introduction TEA p. 17, Response 1	A purposeful organizational structure that supports the logical development of the controlling idea is present, and it includes an introduction and a conclusion TEA p. 21, Response 1	A purposeful structure that includes an effective introduction and conclusion TEA p. 24, Response 1
English I	The first sentence also acts as a minimal introduction, but the writer offers no conclusion. TEA p. 12, Response 1	The writer provides an introduction but offers no conclusion TEA p. 14, Response 1	An organizational structure is minimal, offering an introductory thesis statement but no evident conclusion. TEA p. 16, Response 1	The thesis statement serves as an introduction to the essay, and the last sentence is the conclusion, which is a repetition of the thesis. TEA p. 18, Response 1	The organization of the essay is mostly effective, and the writer offers an introduction as well as a conclusion that both add to the effectiveness of the writing. TEA p. 22, Response 1	A purposeful structure that includes an effective introduction and conclusion is evident. TEA p. 26, Response 2

Reading the chart. Each cell quotes one note TEA printed beside a released sample paper, word for word, with the printed page and the response number in that guide. Every row quotes the Organization and Development of Ideas note, the place where TEA names the introduction and the conclusion. In all three tests the score 0 note reports a missing or minimal structure, and the score 5 note reports an effective introduction and conclusion.