As you write your essay, remember these important points.

Content:

- Read the instructions, the writing task, and both sources, and respond as directed.
- Present a clear central idea (position).
- Give enough details to support and develop your central idea, your position.
- Use well-chosen information from both sources in your essay.
- Present your ideas in a logical order, and include an introduction and conclusion.

Style:

- Use words that reinforce your position and express your meaning well.
- Write in complete sentences and use a variety of sentence types and lengths to make your writing easy to follow.

Sentence Formation:

- Write complete and correct sentences.

Usage:

- Write using appropriate subject-verb agreement, verb tenses, word meaning, and word endings.

Mechanics:

- Write using correct punctuation.
- Write using correct capitalization.
- Write using appropriate formatting.

Spelling:

- Write using correct spelling.
Follow the steps below to help you write a successful essay.

Step 1: Planning

✓ Read the instructions, the writing task, and both sources carefully.
✓ Think about what you will write before you begin.
✓ As you read the sources, jot down notes that will help you create your essay. Include relevant information from both sources to support your central idea, your position.
✓ Use the paper provided by your test administrator for planning your composition and/or writing your rough draft.

Step 2: Drafting and Revising

✓ Type your essay in the space provided.
✓ To begin a paragraph, use the Enter key. Then use the Tab key or the space bar to indent the paragraph.
✓ Review your essay to make sure you have covered all the points on the Writer’s Checklist.
✓ Read through your essay.
✓ Rearrange ideas or change words to make your meaning clear and improve your essay.

Step 3: Proofreading

✓ Read your final draft.
✓ Make any needed corrections.

Points to Remember:

✓ Only the final draft submitted online will be scored.
✓ Your essay will be scored on content (central idea, development of ideas, use of both sources, and organization); style (word choice, expression of ideas, and sentence variety); and conventions of language (sentence formation, usage, mechanics, and spelling).