ISAT Writing Glossary

**Balance** - Major points are developed evenly

**Bare Bones Development** - A response with only the essentials; weak in support

**Coherence** - Overall organizational plan

**Cohesion** - Idea-to-idea connection, usually achieved through sentence variety and/or word choice

**Episode** - Happenings within the unifying event in a narrative

**Extension** - Additional information but at a superficial level; does not add depth

**Focus Drift** - Adding irrelevant information

**Formulaic Structure** - Simple presentation that replicates a template

**Giant Focus** - An organized plan is announced but not developed

**Inductive Focus** - Technique for presenting the topic through clues, examples, or anecdotes

**Intrusive Transitions** - Transition words that interrupt the flow of ideas and thoughts

**Launch** - Developing the topic without providing an opening statement

**Off Mode** - Genre of the response does not match the assignment (i.e., assignment is to write an expository response, but student writes a narrative response)

**Prompt Dependent** - The reader's understanding depends on his familiarity with the prompt

**Redundant Transitions** - Reuse of the same transition words

**Second-order Support** - Explains the importance of evidence/examples; adds depth

**Specific Preview** - Introduces the topic and shows how it will be presented

**Sufficiency** - Very little writing or very little content or substance

**Thematic Introduction** - States the overall idea or topic; prepares the reader for how the writer is going to treat the topic; may be anecdotal

**Umbrella Statement** - An opening or closing statement that covers all topics, ideas, and episode

**Unifying Event** - Main happening, or occasion in a narrative

**Voice** - Lively, interesting writing that engages the reader

**Word Choice Enhances Specificity** - Vivid words and phrases are used to create a picture in the reader's mind