

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