The New AOL Writing Rubric

The Old and the New AOL Writing Rubric

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2 Types of AOL Prompts

Solution, Contribution & Innovation

How can you...
What solution ....

Situational Prompts

If you are...
Pretend that you are ...

ACL Admissions Scoring Rubric – (2020 – 2021)
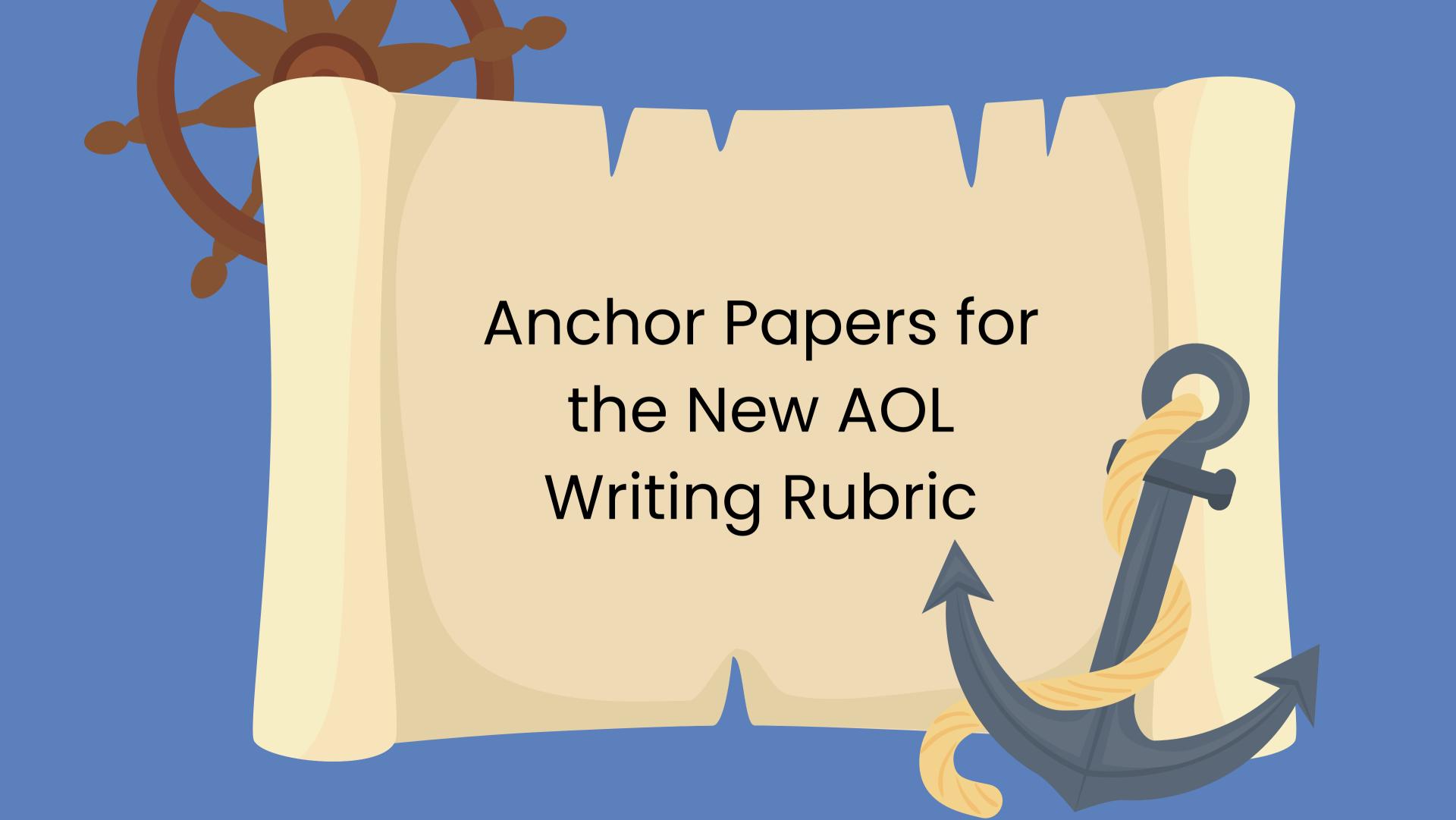
| Indicators	0 No Evidence	1 Limited Evidence (Response indicates one or fewer of the criteria below)	2 Full Evidence (Response indicates one or more of the criteria below)	Score (Record Score in this column)
Open Mindset	No evidence	• Limited approaches and/or solutions to the problem • Lacks specificity	• Multiple arguments and/or counter arguments are present • Several approaches are present • Considers alternative points of view	
Information Processing	No evidence	• Minimal organization of thought • Lacks evidence of interconnected ideas • Limited evidence of logical thought process	• Highly developed synopsis extending beyond given information • Displays strong processing of ideas • Logical argument based on evidence	
Fluency of Ideas	No evidence	• Limited solutions based on assumptions • Minimal approaches and/or solutions to the problem	• Proposes and/or pursues multiple innovative solutions • Provides clear and concise explanation of abstract ideas	
Problem Solving	No evidence	• Lacks pursuit of a counter argument • Minimal evidence of a meaningful solution	• Clearly presents and/or pursues multiple counter arguments • Generates original and innovative solution(s)	
Resourcefulness	No evidence	• Limited use of technology and/or global systems • Lacks consideration of possibilities • Minimal practical application	• Multifaceted use of technologies and/or global systems • Uses multiple sources of evidence • Challenges assumptions with novel ideas	
Total	10			
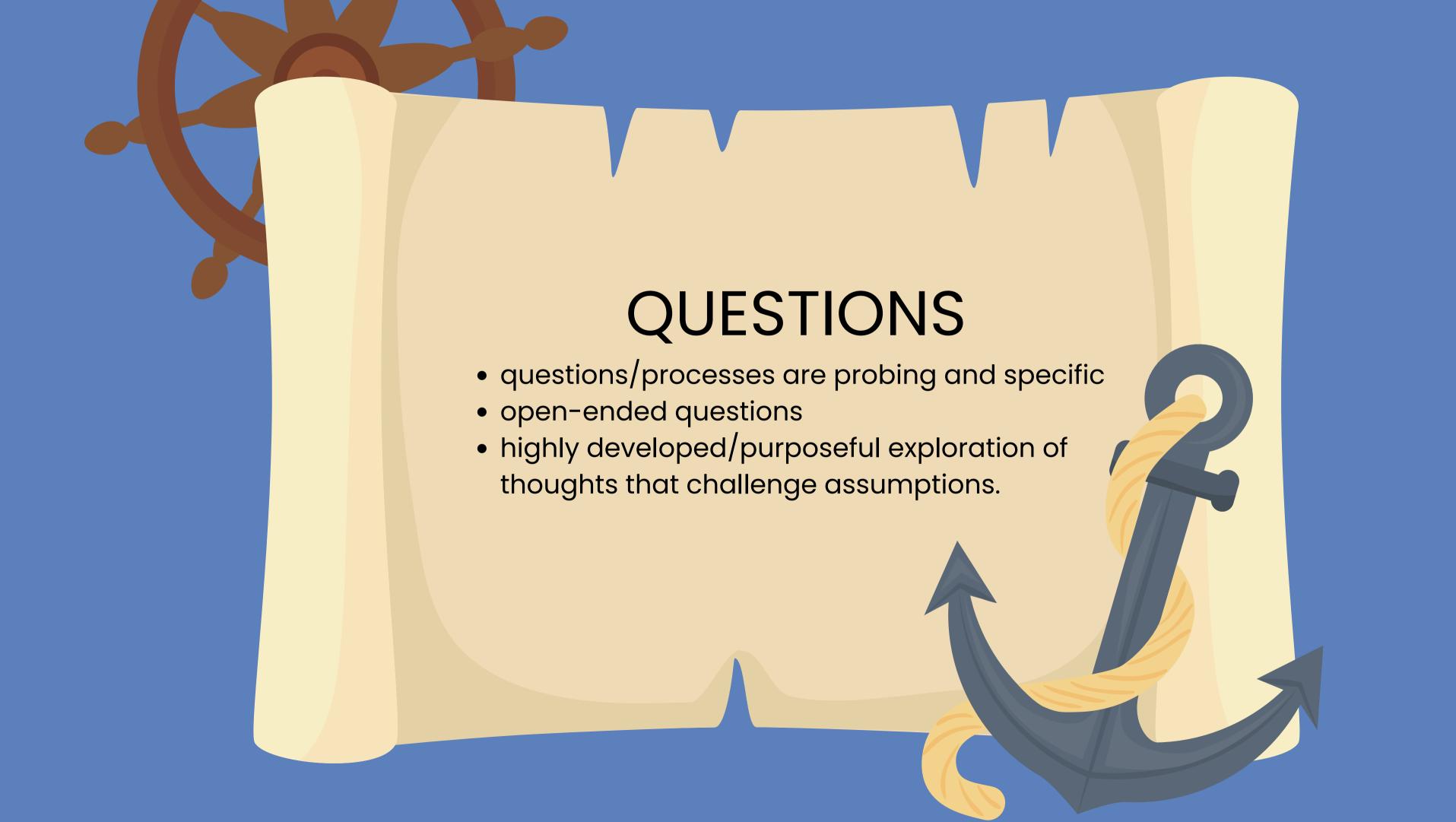
2023-2024 Writing Prompt Rubric

Indicators	0 No Evidence	1 Limited Evidence (Response indicates majority of the criteria below)	2 Full Evidence (Response indicates the majority of the criteria below)	Score (Record Score in this column)
Questioning/ Processing	No evidence	- Questions/processes are basic and lack specificity - Poses closed-ended questions - Basic exploration of thought	- Questions/processes are probing and specific - Poses opened-ended questions - Highly developed/purposeful exploration of thought which challenge assumptions	
Information Gathering/ Analysis	No evidence	- Irrelevant, illogical, and/or confusing thought processes - Superficial information gathering including limited and/or unreliable resources - Minimal analysis of topic	- Relevant and logical thought processes based on evidence - Information gathering includes multiple methods of collection including valid and reliable resources - In-depth analysis and synthesization of topic	
Fluency/ Originality of Ideas	No evidence	- Generates few ideas (1 or 2) specific to the topic - Minimal explanation of ideas - Ideas lack originality	- Generates multiple ideas (3 or more) specific to the topic - Provides clear and concise explanation of ideas - Ideas are original and demonstrate unique viewpoints	
Presentation/ Reasoning	No evidence	- Presents ideas in a poorly organized manner which does not directly address the topic and/or has minimal practical application - Presents vague evidence of meaningful possibilities - Minimal acknowledgement or pursuit of a counter argument	- Presents ideas in a clear and well-organized manner which directly addresses and can be applied to the topic - Presentation provides detailed/clear descriptions of meaningful possibilities - Clearly presents and/or pursues counter argument(s)	
Point of View/ Perspective	No evidence	Describes potential impact on limited audiences or audiences that would only be minimally impacted	Describes impact a wide range of audiences or one where the solution would have a major impact	
Total	10			

2023-2024 Writing Prompt Rubric

Indicators	0 No Evidence	1 Limited Evidence (Response indicates majority of the criteria below)	2 Full Evidence (Response indicates the majority of the criteria below)	Score (Record Score in this column)
Questioning/ Processing	No evidence	• Questions/processes are basic and lack specificity • Poses closed-ended questions • Basic exploration of thought	• Questions/processes are probing and specific • Poses opened-ended questions • Highly developed/purposeful exploration of thought which challenge assumptions	–close vs open–ended questions • first bullet in Info Processing
Information Gathering/ Analysis	No evidence	• Irrelevant, illogical, and/or confusing thought processes • Superficial information gathering including limited and/or unreliable resources • Minimal analysis of topic	• Relevant and logical thought processes based on evidence • Information gathering includes multiple methods of collection including valid and reliable resources • In-depth analysis and synthesization of topic	
Fluency/ Originality of Ideas	No evidence	• Generates few ideas (1 or 2) specific to the topic • Minimal explanation of ideas • Ideas lack originality	• Generates multiple ideas (3 or more) specific to the topic • Provides clear and concise explanation of ideas • Ideas are original and demonstrate unique viewpoints	• specified numbers • Resourcefulness
Presentation/ Reasoning	No evidence	• Presents ideas in a poorly organized manner which does not directly address the topic and/or has minimal practical application • Presents vague evidence of meaningful possibilities • Minimal acknowledgement or pursuit of a counter argument	• Presents ideas in a clear and well-organized manner which directly addresses and can be applied to the topic • Presentation provides detailed/clear descriptions of meaningful possibilities • Clearly presents and/or pursues counter argument(s)	• Open Mindset, Problem Solving and Info Processing
Point of View/ Perspective	No evidence	• Describes potential impact on limited audiences or audiences that would only be minimally impacted	• Describes impact a wide range of audiences or one where the solution would have a major impact	• audience impact
Total	10			

Anchor Papers for the New AOL Writing Rubric

QUESTIONS

- questions/processes are probing and specific
- open-ended questions
- highly developed/purposeful exploration of thoughts that challenge assumptions.

Closed Questions

CLOSED

- single short answers

- ends conversation

Open-Ended Questions

Open

- long answers

- opens conversation

Closed Questions

Has the monitoring of the restoration project been performed?

Was the project part of the larger national restoration?

When was the X species last seen in Y place?

What was the funding source of the previous conservation project?

Who was involved in the conservation project in the Y community?

Open-Ended Questions

How do ecological corridors affect the population size of species X living in fragmented habitat Y?"

How does environmental education influence the behavior of the local community Z toward species X?"

What benefits can an ecotourism program bring to local community Z?

How are ecotourism visitors in area Y affecting the population density of species X?"

Examples of Non-Framed Questions

"We want to know if the population size of species X increases with the number of corridors between fragments." This is a prediction, not a question.

"We want to know if species X is present in area Z." Lack of information is not itself a conservation question.

If I were a wildlife biologist and the government wanted to eliminate species on the endangered list they thought to be extinct, here's what I would do.

First, I would ask the questions of where they live, their recent activity, and people who have been recently studying them. Next I would research the activity of the animal in the last 6 months. I would then send people to observe their habitats. I would put the information in a chart to see if there has been any activity. I would also ask people who have recently been studying them.

To present all of this information, I would show government officials my chart, pictures, and any other data. I would then come to a conclusion based on the information and decide whether or not they are extinct.