

**Kentucky Department of Education
Office of Assessment and Accountability**

QualityCore® Constructed-Response Outline

The Constructed Response sections of the end-of-course tests are specific to each subject. Below is an outline of the questions within each subject. The information below is a compilation from the QualityCore® Test Blueprints. There is a Holistic Scoring Guide for U.S. History, Biology and Algebra II constructed responses and an Analytic Scoring Guide for English II (English 10). The scoring guides for each subject area are found in the corresponding Test Blueprint. In each content area, no score is given to a response that is blank, off-topic, illegible, or written in another language.

Student responses for English II (English 10) require an essay. Responses for U.S. History require short essays, whereas Algebra II and Biology responses may be paragraphs or bulleted lists. Most of the Algebra II and Biology items are open responses (there are many ways to arrive at the answer). In science and mathematics, students are often asked to explain their reasoning or how they arrived at their answer and process.

Specific examples of Constructed Response items for each subject are found in the Formative Item Pool and Benchmark Assessments. Both of these are found in the Educator Resource section of the QualityCore® online system.

English II (English 10)

There is one constructed-response item on the constructed-response EOC exam in English 10 (*Essay*).

QualityCore® English 10 Analytic Scoring Guide (ESSAY)

Four separate analytic scores (ranging from 1 to 6) are given to essays written in response to the English constructed-response item: literary interpretation, development, organization, and language. These scores are added together and are reported as the English 10 Essay score.

U.S. History

There are two constructed-response items on the constructed-response EOC exam in U.S. History (short essays).

QualityCore® U.S. History Constructed-Response Analysis Task

For one of the two constructed-response items, the Analysis Task, a holistic score ranging from 1 to 4 will be given.

QualityCore® U.S. History Constructed-Response: Visual Stimulus Task

For the other of the two constructed-response items, the Visual Stimulus Task, a holistic score ranging from 1 to 3 will be given.

Algebra II (Open/Extended Response)

There are three constructed-response items on the constructed-response EOC exam in Algebra II (Open/Extended Response).

QualityCore® Mathematics Constructed-Response

Each constructed-response exam will include three items:

- one from Number Sense and Operation Skills and Quadratic Functions
- one from Polynomial Functions
- one from Linear Functions, Nonpolynomial Functions, or Probability, Sequences, and Series

For each of the three constructed-response items, a holistic score (ranging from 1 to 4) is given using the holistic Mathematics scoring guide.

Biology (Open/Extended Response)

There are three constructed-response items on the constructed-response EOC exam in Biology (Open/Extended Response).

QualityCore® Science Constructed-Response

Each constructed-response exam will include three items:

- one from Biochemistry; Cell
- one from Genetics; Evolution
- one from Animal/Plant Systems and Ecology

For each of the three constructed-response items, a holistic score (ranging from 1 to 4) is given using the holistic Science scoring guide.