



Certification Examinations for Oklahoma Educators™

Tips for OSAT Constructed-Response Assignments

Before the Test:

- Review the field-specific study guide. Pay particular attention to the test-taking strategies and test competencies. Review the sample writing prompts, sample responses, and constructed-response assignment scoring information provided. Pay close attention to the performance characteristics and scoring scale.
- Review the [testing tutorials](#) available through the CEOE website.

During the Test:

Read the constructed-response writing assignment carefully before you begin to write. Think about how you will organize your response. As a whole, your response must demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge and skills of the field. In your response to the assignment, you are expected to demonstrate the depth of your understanding of the content area through your ability to apply your knowledge and skills rather than merely to recite factual information. Make sure you explicitly attend to **all** of the tasks required in the assignment. The constructed-response assignment is intended to assess subject matter knowledge and skills, not writing ability. However, your response must be communicated clearly enough to permit valid judgment of the scoring criteria. Be sure to write about the assigned topic. Remember to review what you have written and make any changes you think will improve your response. Your response to the assignment will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- **PURPOSE:** the extent to which the response achieves the purpose of the assignment
- **SUBJECT MATTER KNOWLEDGE:** accuracy and appropriateness in the application of subject matter knowledge
- **SUPPORT:** quality and relevance of supporting details
- **RATIONALE:** soundness of argument and degree of understanding of the subject matter

After the Test:

- Review "[How to Read Your CEOE Score Report](#)".

The questions below are designed to help you develop an effective response to the constructed-response assignment.

Purpose

- Have you answered *each part* of the assignment and provided detailed information for each of the tasks required?
- Have you conveyed your main points clearly to the reader?

Subject Matter Knowledge

- Does the information you provide in your response demonstrate to the reader that you understand the subject matter that is the topic of the assignment?
- Is the subject matter information included in your response accurate and relevant to the topic of the assignment?

Support

- What additional information (supporting details) can you use to explain your points clearly and fully?
- Is the supporting evidence provided in your response substantial, accurate, and relevant to the discussion of the assigned topic?

Rationale

- Have you given reasons *why* the examples you provided in your response support the main points you addressed?
- Have you explained *why* strategies you suggested would be effective in the given situation?

Finally, before you submit your response, read it to make sure that you have addressed all parts of the assignment, provided accurate information and reasoned support, and demonstrated your depth of understanding of the subject matter.