Your students' scores were assigned by a computer program that analyzes written language. Before the computer program can begin scoring essays, it must be "calibrated". This process consists of having the computer program analyze the language in a large group of essays that were written by students and scored by experts in the evaluation of student writing. Once it is calibrated, the computer program can begin scoring new essays. It analyzes the language of each new essay and assigns it the score that the experts assigned to essays in which the language was similar.

There are many qualities of good writing that an instructor can take into account in grading or scoring an essay, including:

- clearly expressed ideas;
- logical connections between the ideas;
- examples that illustrate and support the ideas;
- correct use of words;
- sentences that follow accepted rules of grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Visit the ETS® Proficiency Profile website at http://www.ets.org/proficiencyprofile to review the essay scoring guide that was used in the calibration process.

Student essays that were blank or too brief to evaluate, not relevant to the topic, or not written in English are not included in calculations for aggregate reports. Such essays are marked with an asterisk (*) on the Roster of Essay Scores Report.