

## Bakersfield College -- ENGL B60 Basic Writing Skills - Student Learning Outcomes

**Course:** ENGL B60 Basic Writing Skills

**College:** Bakersfield College

**Assessment Term:** Fall, 2012

**Status:** Launched

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### Learning Outcome:

**Target of Performance:** English department members will discuss rubric areas d and e and standards [of the English 60 Final Essay Exam, the FEE].

**Learning Outcome:** Write a non-formulaic, timed final 250 word essay that is 1) organized around a thesis statement, uses transitions, is coherent, and contains a conclusion; 2) assembled into paragraphs with topic sentences and supporting detail; 3) composed of mostly error-free sentences; 4) written illustrating control of mechanics, usage, and diction; 5) demonstrative of a variety of sentence patterns that avoid primer prose; 6) clear in thought and writing in response to a specific topic.

**Assessment Tool/Scoring Method:** a paper, scored by rubric

### Assessment Plan:

**Changes Made Since Last Assessment:** This was the first assessment; not applicable

**Assessment Plan:** By week 15 of spring 2012, students will have written a 250-word in-class essay that is read by the teacher and one other instructor using an agreed upon rubric. One blue book per instructor will be selected at random to review. During staff development week of fall 2012, department will meet to review appropriateness of grammar standards.

### Assessment Results:

**Results:** 17 random Final Exam Essays were reviewed. 7 of these essays had received failing scores during the spring 2012 FEE grading. All 7 failed for reasons d and e (grammar). 2 failed for other issues as well: one reader marked a paper down for content, and another reader marked another paper down for organization.

The SLOs for the reviewed areas (grammar) are being assessed consistently; however, the reviewed areas appear to be more heavily weighted than other areas mentioned in the SLOs, even though the final exam is meant to address content, organization, and development skills.

**Analysis and Plan for Improvement and Reassessment:** The department should meet to discuss the SLOs for English 60 to address the areas that are not being assessed as strongly (content and organization) and to consider other assessment methods so that students are being assessed in all areas of the SLOs equally.

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