

DVC ACCUPLACER WritePlacer® PLACEMENTS

Scores	3000	3098	3118	3122
	Score not high enough No placement	Intro to College Writing	College Writing Development	Freshman Composition

On the pages that follow are sample essays demonstrating the four levels of placement that you may achieve through the WritePlacer® essay.

Description of No Placement or 3000 score

A response in this category demonstrates no mastery of on-demand essay writing; the response is severely flawed by many or most of the following weaknesses:

- Lacks a viable point of view on the issue
- Demonstrates no awareness of audience
- Fails to present a main idea
- Demonstrates flawed reasoning
- Demonstrates no complexity of thought
- Is disorganized and/or disjointed
- Displays fundamental errors in word choice, usage and sentence structure
- Contains pervasive spelling, grammar, punctuation and mechanical errors

Shown below is a sample essay that received a score of No Placement. The annotations explain why the essay received the indicated score.

Sample Essay

The question is can any obstacle or disadvantage be turned into something good? Yes it can, because even in the story he couldn't get in because of the chair and the guy tells him if it's a drama, "Smash it and if it's a comedy fall over it. But when you think about it, if a girl was guilty and was pleading to say on how she was innocent and they catch her in a lie its practically the same thing. But that's not the point but you can change a negative into a positive someway.

Description of Placement 3098

A response in this category demonstrates little mastery of on-demand essay writing; the response is flawed by one or more of the following weaknesses:

- Presents a vague or limited point of view on the issue
- Demonstrates little awareness of audience
- Attempts to develop the main idea though that attempt is inadequate
- Demonstrates weak critical thinking with little complexity of thought or with flawed reasoning
- Provides inappropriate or insufficient examples, reasons, or other evidence to support its position
- Is poorly organized and/or focused or demonstrates serious problems with coherence or progression of ideas
- Displays limited word choice and little sentence variety
- Contains many errors in mechanical conventions of usage, sentence structure, grammar, spelling and punctuation

Shown below is a sample essay that received a Placement of 3098.

Sample Essay

I do believe that any obstacle or disadvantage can be turned into something good. I believe this because people learn many things from their mistakes and that's the only way. In the example that is provided, the actor is obviously confused. The director makes a good point on how to work around it, and in a case where they make use of the chair that's in the way, which helps make it funny, exciting, or depressing. In a play or musical of any type, it adds meaning. Not only does an obstacle or disadvantage get turned into something good, but it can discover new things. Whenever any situation happens, such as in this case, I'd laugh if it's funny, cry if it's dramatic, make a joke out of it, or act like it didn't happen. Just keep in mind that the purpose of life is to learn from mistakes, which can turn into something good.

Description of Placement 3118

An essay in this category demonstrates adequate mastery of on-demand essay writing although it will have lapses in quality. A typical essay

- Develops a viable point of view on the issue
- May stray from the audience and purpose but is able to refocus
- Demonstrates competent critical thinking, using adequate examples, reasons, and other evidence to support its position
- Is generally organized and focused but could lack coherence and logical progression of ideas
- Exhibits adequate but inconsistent control of language
- Demonstrates some variety in sentence structure
- Contains some minor errors in sentence structure, grammar, spelling and punctuation

Shown below is a sample essay that received a Placement of 3118.

Sample Essay

There are many things in life that may seem to have a difficult or depressing outlook but if you try some of those things can be turned into something outstanding. For example there may be certain people you may run into on a day to day basis that may seem to carry themselves in a bad way but you have to try to get to know them because you never know that can turn out to be one of the best people in the world.

Many people in our society look at things such as driving a car, to be a very hard obstacle because they feel that it's something that is hard to do, but until they try they will never know. If we'd learn to look at the bright side of things instead of the negative then many things that we face in our life would turn out for the better. When you think you may have down all that is in your power to do to try to get the good out of something, believe me there is always someone who will be able to help you. I know that there are things that may seem too hard or difficult but if you put your mind to it everything will come out for the better. I know there have been some times in my life when I have been in some difficult situations such as the time I lost money out of my wallet and I didn't know what I was going to do. But I stopped worrying about it and it wasn't long before I had my money back. Whenever you come up on something in your life that you may think that there is no way of accomplishing

Description of Placement 3122

An essay in this category demonstrates consistent mastery of on-demand essay writing, although it may have occasional minor errors. A typical essay

- Effectively and insightfully develops a point of view on the issue
- Addresses an appropriate audience and demonstrates a clear purpose for writing in the thesis statement
- Demonstrates outstanding critical thinking, using appropriate examples, reasons, and other evidence to support its position
- Is well organized and focused, demonstrating clear coherence and smooth progression of ideas
- Exhibits appropriate language, using a varied and accurate vocabulary
- Demonstrates varied sentence structure
- Is practically free of errors in sentence structure, grammar, spelling and punctuation

Sample Essay

Life is what you make it. Time after time we are stuck with disadvantages and struggles, but it is how we receive it that makes a world of a difference. It is possible to turn obstacles into building blocks, to reach success.

My most difficult school year was during the 8th and 9th grade. The school I was attending placed a lot of stress on me - the homework was unbearable and the teachers seemed to care nothing for it. Many times as I went seeking help but would receive a cold shoulder or a slam in the face. Not only that, but I was not doing well socially with the rest of my peers. It was extremely difficult finding a way to fit in.

I could have stayed and wallowed in my misery but I decided to take the initiative and talk to my parents about the situation. Together we began building the blocks towards my success.

That next year I left the school and we began home school. In one term I taught myself the subjects and this prepared me for what was coming next. My parents with the discipline I needed and I decided it was time to move on. I took a test to enter a very high academic - perhaps the highest on my Island - school to see if I would get in. I reached something beyond my wildest dreams and was accepted. Not only that, but the next year I was appointed head girl and am training to attend Harvard College next year.

My "painful struggle" through my early high-school years lead me to make the right decisions for which school I should attend to make the best of my future. Obstacles are only put to make us stronger, hurdles are placed so that we jump higher.