



Here's what educators are saying about ETS' *Criterion*® Online Writing Evaluation service:

Chicago Public Schools

"My relevance in the classroom has been enhanced through the use of the ETS *Criterion* program, for today I am more of a "coach". The conversations with my students, which were once focused on "errors" are now focused on "expectations."

Richard Gelb
Assistant Principal, Benito Juarez Academy
Chicago, IL

Plymouth Community School Corporation

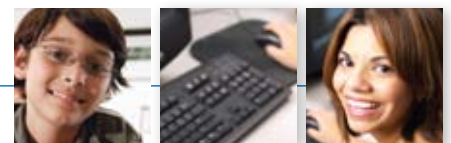
"Just as athletes improve their abilities through practice and coaching, writers also improve their skills through practice and coaching. The *Criterion* program provides students practice with a variety of writing prompts and opportunities to revise and rewrite ideas while allowing teachers to coach quality writing. Plymouth High School students have been using the *Criterion* program for three years. Teachers and students VALUE the program and have noted improvements in fluency, style, organization, mechanics and usage. Each year, we discover new and better ways to utilize the program, but the bottom line is this: our students are writing more, teachers are coaching more effectively and our writing program is experiencing ongoing progress with the use of the online *Criterion* program."

Kathy Richter
English Teacher, Plymouth High School
Plymouth, IN

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

"The *Criterion* program has helped me become a better instructor of writing. I primarily teach grammar to freshmen in high school and was unsure how this program would help my students when I first learned of it. After going to the initial training session, I discovered how easy this was to use and how beneficial it would be to have at Bishop Dwenger High School. When I returned to the building, I told our department head that we had to have this program. After the first year, I saw a tremendous improvement in the length of writing and the self-editing process. As I became more comfortable with the program, I discovered many ways to enhance the experience for my students. We now use it to include many elements of writing such as transitions, vocabulary and varying sentence length. Every element I use in grammar can be addressed with the program. If we are studying adjectives, I have them include 25 different adjectives in the writing. If we are studying clauses, this ties directly into varying sentence length. I have seen the students length and development of writing improve a great deal as has been shown through our writing development scores on the ISTEP+ exam every year. My students also enjoy the self-editing and the immediate feedback. They use the Writer's Handbook almost every time they are doing another essay for some sort of tip or example. I would highly recommend this program to anyone."

Amy Gonzagowski
English Teacher, Bishop Dwenger High School
Fort Wayne, IN



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Portland Public Schools

"I like *Criterion* because it gives immediate feedback to students in the area of conventions which in turn motivates them to fix mistakes and raise their scores. *Criterion* can do in seconds what would take me hours if I hand graded and edited essays. Students are also given feedback in the traits of writing and organization which reinforces what we're doing in the classroom.

Beth Madison
Principal, George Middle School
Portland, OR

Archdiocese of Cincinnati

"As my eighth grade students and I navigated the system, we all discovered aspects of the program that excited us. From the opportunity to plan essays using the electronic graphic organizers to the freedom to work at home or at school to the instant feedback on work—we each gained a new perspective on an age old process.

I look forward to using the *Criterion* service in my classroom regularly throughout the school year and becoming more knowledgeable about all it has to offer to both students and teachers."

Nancy L. Thomas
St. Susanna Parish School
Mason, OH

Council Rock School District

"The *Criterion* program serves our students well. The feedback options allow students to receive immediate and helpful objective commentary and instruction. Teachers understand that the program is a valuable tool to encourage writing, and when combined with in-class instruction that includes pre-writing and pre-thinking strategies, students write confidently. Both teachers and students find the program easy to use, which increases the frequency with which the program is used. The scoring reports help uncover the needs of the students, which can then be the focus of mini-lessons."

Sheryl Kreps
K-12 English/Language Arts Supervisor
Council Rock School District
Newtown, PA

Placer Union High School District

"I just wanted to say 'Thank you' for your computer program. I used it with my senior English students who have learning disabilities. They had to do a rigorous research paper just like the rest of the seniors. I was able to assign work that the students could access at home, which really helped them. The fact that I also had access at home gave me the opportunity to give them so much more feedback than I could have given them otherwise. Thanks for that!"

Michelle Isheim
Curriculum Coordinator, English Department
Colfax High School
Colfax, CA

Irvine Unified School District

"At Irvine, we've been using the *Criterion* service to benchmark student performance. And, both middle school and high school students have been writing on the *Criterion* topics in the classroom. The Irvine school district endorses writing across the curriculum, which means that each of our teachers frequently assigns writing for up to 180 students or more. They then must invest somewhere in the neighborhood of 60 hours grading one assignment. The *Criterion* service gets feedback to the students right away. And, with the individual portfolio feature, our teachers have access to a very large sample of scored essays. At a glance, we can make determinations about student performance levels. We'll use these results to formulate a more definitive writing rubric for our schools and perhaps even the district."

Diana Schmelzer
Principal, University High School (retired)
Irvine, CA

To learn more about the *Criterion* Online Writing Evaluation service, visit www.riversidepublishing.com or take an online tour at www.riversidepublishing.com/criterion/. To speak with a representative, call 800-841-9938.



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