Fitzgerald

**M-Step – Language Arts Test Writing Piece**

Your ability to write will be tested on the M-Step through both multiple choice questions and a written essay.

* For the written essay, you will be given
  + a text to read
    - (The text may be either
      * informational

or

* + - * narrative.)
  + a writing prompt that asks you to respond to that text

The prompt will require you to ***analyze a specific element in the passage***.

The overall goals are for you to show your ability to

* Respond effectively to the prompt
  + Analyze the text
    - In the manner requested
    - Accurately
    - Completely
* Consider your audience
* Effectively and correctly use vocabulary present in the text being analyzed
* Have a clear , well organized structure to your writing
  + Clearly state a specific main idea in response
  + Provide paragraphs of support
    - Make sure each supporting paragraph
      * Focuses on a clearly introduced reason for your answer
      * Develops this reason with a substantial amount of specific, well-chosen (important, best available) evidence from the text
        + Details/Facts
        + Examples
        + Both quoted (especially when wording is important) and paraphrased
      * Clearly and accurately explains how that evidence supports your point
  + Present ideas in a logical, well planned order and uses transitions as needed
  + Have an appropriate conclusion
* Few if any convention errors
  + Spelling, Capitalization, Punctuation
  + Full sentences – no fragments or run-ons, begin with capital letter, end with wnd punctuation
  + Grammar and Usage

You can find the rubric that will be used for this piece here: <http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/TDA_Rubric_FINAL_ada_605239_7.pdf>