

CriterionSM Online Writing Evaluation v4.1 – New Features

- **Ninety (90) new prompts** – Ten new topics at each grade level have been added to the *Criterion*SM service’s topics library for a total of 163 prompts for Grades 4-12. Sample papers at each score point are available for each prompt that has been in the system at least six months. Therefore, sample papers for the 90 new prompts should be available by August 2006 dependent upon submissions.
- **Reduction of the number of pages in the Combined Feedback report.** Page breaks have been eliminated between each trait feedback error.
- **Procedure to Add Words to the *Criterion*SM Dictionary**

This new feature allows users to submit word(s) to ETS to be added to the *Criterion*SM Online Writing Evaluation spelling dictionary database. These words then will not be flagged in spell check or by the scoring engine as misspelled words.

Words submitted may be proper names, such as characters in literature, place names, or non-English words (English alphabet only). You may remember such words from past assignments that were flagged as misspelled that you would like to submit. As you plan future *Criterion* assignments, you may wish to send unusual prompt-related words your students may use in their essay responses to a particular topic/prompt.

- 1) E-mail a list of words that you request to be added to the dictionary to criteriondictionary@ets.org. The added words will be permanent additions to the dictionary database.
- 2) Requests must be received by 8:00 AM Eastern time each Friday for the weekly update.
Note: Due to holidays, the first update will be January 6, 2006.
- 3) ETS will compile the requested words and update the dictionaries overnight each Friday. If requests are numerous, we will consider updates in addition to each Friday.

- **Linux Specifications.** Please see the Technical Specifications document (also on the *Criterion* News site) for complete specifications.

HARDWARE/OS/BROWSER	MINIMUM	RECOMMENDED
DESKTOP PC or LAPTOP	PENTIUM II	PENTIUM III OR GREATER
INPUT DEVICE	KEYBOARD MOUSE	KEYBOARD MOUSE
OPERATING SYSTEM	Novel Linux Desktop 9; Linspire 5.0	Novel Linux Desktop 9; Linspire 5.0
BROWSER: ENABLE COOKIES	Firefox v1.x; NETSCAPE v7.x	Firefox v1.x; NETSCAPE v7.x
GRAPHICS ADAPTER	sVGA 800x600 RESOLUTION	sVGA 800 x 600 RESOLUTION
DISPLAY	ANY SVGA COLOR MONITOR	ANY 17" SVGA COLOR MONITOR OR GREATER

- **CriterionSM to IDMSTM (Instructional Data Management SystemTM) links** – *Criterion*SM and IDMS are parts of the ETS *System 5* suite of products. Now, on both the *Criterion* Administrator and Instructor login screens, there is an IDMS button as a convenience to those customers who use both. The button links to more information about IDMS and provides an opportunity to link to the IDMS homepage.