

Ethics Exam Scoring: What You Need to Know

This guide explains how your exam will be evaluated and provides tips to help you succeed. Read carefully to understand the scoring criteria and how to structure your responses.

How the Exam is Scored

You will respond to **3 out of 5 scenarios**, and your score will include:

Component	Details
Scenarios (3 of 5)	Each scenario is worth 15 points, based on 5 criteria (Describe the Problem, Seek Relevant Information, Identify Conflicting Principles, Propose Solutions, Dynamic Decision-Making). Must score 80% (12/15) or higher on each scenario.
Writing Composition	Scored out of 5 points for writing quality, clarity, and professionalism. This contributes to the total score but does not require 80% individually.
Overall Passing Score	Need 80% (40/50 points) overall, combining scenario scores and writing composition.

Scoring Breakdown – Scenario Rubric (15 points possible / scenario)

Criterion	3 Points (Mastery)	2 Points (Proficient)	1 Point (Developing)	0 Points (Not Addressed)
Describe the Problem	Clear, concise, relevant, detailed.	Clear but lacks depth or key details.	Vague or missing relevant details.	Does not describe the issue.
Seek Information	5+ thoughtful, relevant questions.	Limited or less relevant questions.	Few or incomplete questions.	Does not ask questions.
Identify Principles	All relevant principles clearly explained and cites specific sections of the AET Code of Ethics.	Some principles identified but unclear.	Few principles, lacks clarity.	No principles identified.
Propose Solutions	Comprehensive list of all possible courses of action, benefits/consequences of each are clear. Identifies and provides theories/principles support for preferred course of action.	Limited solutions or analysis.	Few solutions, weak analysis.	No solutions provided.
Dynamic Decision-Making	Thoroughly analyzes outcomes/consequences.	Limited analysis of outcomes.	Minimal analysis of outcomes.	No outcomes considered.

Scoring Breakdown – Writing Rubric (Out of 5 points)

Score	Description
5: Mastery	Demonstrates an exceptional command and use of professional and advanced language, writing mechanics, and grammar, exhibiting a consistently high level of precision, clarity, and sophistication. Expression is nuanced, eloquent, and effectively enhances the overall quality of the composition.

4: Proficient	Displays a proficient command of professional and advanced language, writing mechanics, and grammar with generally clear and precise expression. Language use is sophisticated, contributing to the overall effectiveness of the composition, though occasional lapses may be present.
3: Competent	Exhibits a competent command of professional and advanced language, writing mechanics, and grammar with generally clear expression. Language use is adequate but may lack consistent sophistication, resulting in occasional imprecisions or less refined expression.
2: Developing	Demonstrates a developing command of professional and advanced language, writing mechanics, and grammar. While there are instances of clear expression, language use may lack consistency, resulting in noticeable imprecisions or a limited range of sophistication.
1: Limited Proficiency	Shows limited proficiency in the use of professional and advanced language, writing mechanics, and grammar. Expression may be unclear, imprecise, or lack sophistication, significantly impacting the overall quality of the composition.

Tips for Success

Section	Details
Structure Your Responses	- Describe the Problem: 2-3 sentences clearly defining the issue. - Seek Relevant Information: List at least 5 thoughtful questions. - Identify Conflicting Principles: Analyze ethical principles in 1-2 paragraphs. - Propose Solutions: Discuss 2+ solutions, their pros/cons, and your recommendation (2 paragraphs). - Dynamic Decision-Making: Consider outcomes and consequences in 1 paragraph.
Focus on Clarity and Depth	- Use professional and precise language. - Reference ethical principles or guidelines when relevant. - Avoid vague or surface-level responses.
Check Your Writing Composition	- Be clear, concise, and organized. - Avoid grammar and spelling errors. - Make your points easy to follow.

Summary of Key Points

- Respond to **3 out of 5 scenarios** and aim for a minimum of **12/15 points (80%)** on each.
- Your writing composition will be scored separately (5 points total) and added to your scenario scores.
- To pass, achieve **40/50 points (80%) overall**.

By following this guide, you can confidently tackle the ethics exam and demonstrate your mastery of ethical decision-making!