Multi-Paragraph Scoring Guide for Poetry Comparison: Written Expression

	Written Expression – how it's said:
6 – WOW! Your composition is engaging and developed with originality and flair. The writing is consistently strong in content and expression.	 □ Writing is focused and on topic, with strong voice and expression □ Vocabulary and word choice are effective and sophisticated □ Sentence structure is varied and controlled; transitional and topic sentences are well executed □ Few mechanical or spelling errors
5 – STRONG! Your composition is effective and has a clear sense of purpose; however, there are areas of minor weakness that could be further polished.	 □ Writing is focused and on topic □ Vocabulary and word choice are appropriate □ Sentence structure is varied and competent; transitional and topic sentences are used carefully □ Mechanical or spelling errors are minor and do not interfere
4 – GOOD! Your composition is competent and straightforward; there are areas of weakness that could be developed with more originality of thought or expression.	 □ Writing is generally clear and remains on topic □ Vocabulary and word choice are simple but correct □ Sentence structure is correct, but simple; transitional and topic sentences are predictable □ Some mechanical or spelling errors are present but do not affect understanding
3 – A PASS Your composition is passable and basic; deeper exploration of the ideas and more effective expression are required.	 □ Writing is unfocused but attempts to address the topic □ Vocabulary is basic and repetitive □ Sentence structure is awkward or simplistic; transitional and topic sentences may not be effective □ Mechanical or spelling errors are present but do not impact meaning
2 – ALMOST Your composition is weak and underdeveloped. More attention to developing ideas and structuring the composition are required.	 □ Writing is unfocused and often unclear □ Vocabulary is informal and often colloquial □ Simple sentence forms predominate; transitional sentences are not present □ Numerous mechanical or spelling errors disrupt the flow of the writing
1 – NOT YET Your composition is inaccurate or incomplete.	 □ Controlling idea and purpose are not clear □ Vocabulary is immature or vague; word choice is not appropriate □ Frequent grammar or spelling errors impede understanding
0 – NOT AT ALL	The composition is too brief to evaluate or not present at all.