

Five-Tiered Writing Assessment

AN OVERVIEW

- **TIER 1:** Students respond in writing to a prompt. They use prior knowledge (recall-DOK 1) to respond. This activates the students' thinking about the theme of the overall assessment.
- **TIER 2:** Students are provided a variety of theme-related sources. They read passages, examine charts/graphs, watch a short video clip, etc., to provide them with more insight about the theme. (comprehension-DOK 2)
- **TIER 3:** Students respond to an extended-writing, theme-related prompt. They are required to use the information from the sources provided in Tier 2 as evidence (application/analysis-DOK 3).
- **TIER 4:** Students respond to a prompt in which they incorporate strategic thought and reasoning to develop their ideas (DOK 3). Their response relates to the theme of the activities.
- **TIER 5:** Students respond to a prompt in which they evaluate the value of the five-tier activities (DOK 4).

It is suggested that teachers provide more activities related to the theme to give them more opportunities to engage in a DOK 4 activity. Pro-Core is actively creating sample DOK 4-type activities.