Smarter Balanced worked with educators to create the Smarter Annotated Response Tool (SmART), a dynamic tool that supports educators with their understanding of how student writing is scored on Smarter Balanced assessments.

Learn What Writing Tasks Measure
Smarter Balanced’s writing performance tasks challenge students to demonstrate critical thinking skills, as they examine multiple sources on a common topic and then write a response based on a specific audience and purpose.

Inside SmART
SmART annotations describe how elements of student responses demonstrate the characteristics of the rubrics at various score points.

SmART Allows Educators to:
- Browse a range of student responses in response to different writing purposes.
- Dive deeper into annotations describing why a given student response warrants a particular score point.
- Better understand student scores, score student work, and practice implementing the scoring rubrics.
- Learn about terminology used to describe scoring student written responses on Smarter Balanced assessments.
- Use practice test responses to help determine instructional next steps.
Using SmART

Educators can explore how different student responses are scored across the grade levels and writing purposes to have a clear understanding how the rubrics are applied to each student's response.

**Educators Can Use SmART to Understand:**

- What knowledge and skills are expected for the writing traits, and where students may need additional support.
- Reasons student responses are not assigned a score.
- Grade-level expectations for student responses at each of the score points identified by the rubric.

SmART can support professional development so that teachers understand what to look for when reviewing student writing and practice scoring using the rubrics with their colleagues.