

## Is Human Sexuality and Gender Identity Fluid?

ROW ONE: The response earned 4 points for this row because it identifies a research question that is of reasonable scope, if a bit broad; “To what extent are human sexuality and gender fluid?” The essay generally follows this area of inquiry. The connection to the stimulus materials is explained, “Christopher Bergland’s article, provided in the stimulus packet, on the effects of dancing on the development of ballerinas’ brains, and Dan Hurley’s article that postulates the theory that fluid intelligence, the capacity to solve problems and apply complex reasoning, can be improved through training, also provided, both prove that the human brain can change drastically over time. Therefore, there is a basis for the idea that gender and sexuality can change.” In [this document](#), look for the YELLOW highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.

ROW TWO: The response earned 4 points for this row because it offers some varying perspectives on the topic, including physical elements of the brain, psychology, and societal elements that relate to the topic. However, objections and refutations related to the different perspectives are inconsistently explored. It briefly mentions research findings about gender identity in different populations/cultures historically with little additional commentary on implications or limitations of this perspective. In [this document](#), look for the GREEN highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.

ROW THREE: The response earned 4 points for this row because it interprets and synthesizes evidence from a range of sources, for example, sources include scholarly articles from the fields of psychology, science, and gender study. There is inconsistency in interpretation and synthesis of the range of sources, however, which keeps the response in the middle score range on this row of the rubric. Evidence is, in places, simply offered without interpretation or synthesis, for example, the mention of the Baumeister source. In [this document](#), look for the BLUE highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.

ROW FOUR: The response earned 6 points for this row because it consistently and explicitly distinguishes among various pieces of evidence in terms of their relevance and credibility. The essay has a thorough works cited comprised of scholarly or peer reviewed journals. The essay consistently offers source credentials or refers to source expertise such as the extensive discussion of Swaab, his expertise and research, or Klein’s research. In [this document](#), look for the RED highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.

ROW FIVE: The response earned 4 points for this row because it is logically organized and while the reasoning is not faulty, it does not consistently reach a level of complexity. The conclusions offered, such as suggesting that the answer is “complex” and that fluidity is “temporary” are in line with the research, but are general and simplistic. In [this document](#), look for the PINK highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.

ROW SIX: The response earned 4 points for this row because it links some of its claims and evidence, such as citing research about different traumas that might “cause” or contribute to gender/sexual identity fluidity, without additional developmental commentary to link this evidence to the claims. And, while the essay links claims and evidence throughout, it uses inconsistent commentary to link the two, at times simply offering a claim, a piece of corroborating evidence, and then a transition to the next area of discussion. In [this document](#), look for the GREY highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.

ROW SEVEN: The response earned 2 points for this row because it attributes and cites most of the sources and information with a reasonable amount of accuracy, and although there are stylistic and mechanical errors, these are relatively minor. The bibliography appears to be consistent and complete but with some formatting issues. In [this document](#), look for the TEAL BLUE highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.

ROW EIGHT: The response earned 3 points for this row because it contains few if any flaws in style and grammar and clearly communicates the argument to the reader. In [this document](#), look for the OLIVE GREEN highlighted phrases or sentences that show evidence for the scoring of this row.