



**CAL STATE LA**

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

# Fourth Wave Writing Assessment: Implications and Implementations

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# Four Waves of Writing Assessment

***Kathleen Blake Yancy, "Looking Back as We Look Forward: Historicizing Writing Assessment as a Rhetorical Act." 1999.***

***Brian Huot, (Re)Articulating Writing Assessment for Teaching and Learning. 2002.***

- **First Wave: 1950-1970**

Indirect measures of writing proficiency such as objective tests.

- **Second Wave: 1970-1986**

Direct measures of student writing via timed writing exams .

- **Third Wave: 1986-?**

Direct, holistic scoring of a collection of work, such as a portfolio containing both revised texts and drafts of texts..

- **Fourth Wave: 2010?**

Brian Huot argues for direct writing assessment that delivers feedback to students; involves students; and synthesizes grading, assessment, and feedback.



# Cal State LA Stretch Composition Pilot

2010-2013

- **Portfolio-Based**

Students submitted portfolios containing a cover letter, multiple essays, and essay drafts

- **Trend-based**

Assessment scores focused on discrete categories of writing such as development, research, focus, and style conventions

- **Student-based**

Students participated in writing assessment

- **Growth-based**

Students received assessment feedback and were asked to write reflections on that feedback

- **Grade-based**

Assessment scores figured in the course grades



# The Rubric

- **Scores**

Challenging (5) - Advanced (4) - Meeting (3) - Approaching (2) - Developing (1)

Correlates to a four-point scale.

- **Categories**

Analysis (Content) - R&D (Use of Information) - Organization - Tone/Voice/Style (added in 2012) - Conventions



# Results.1

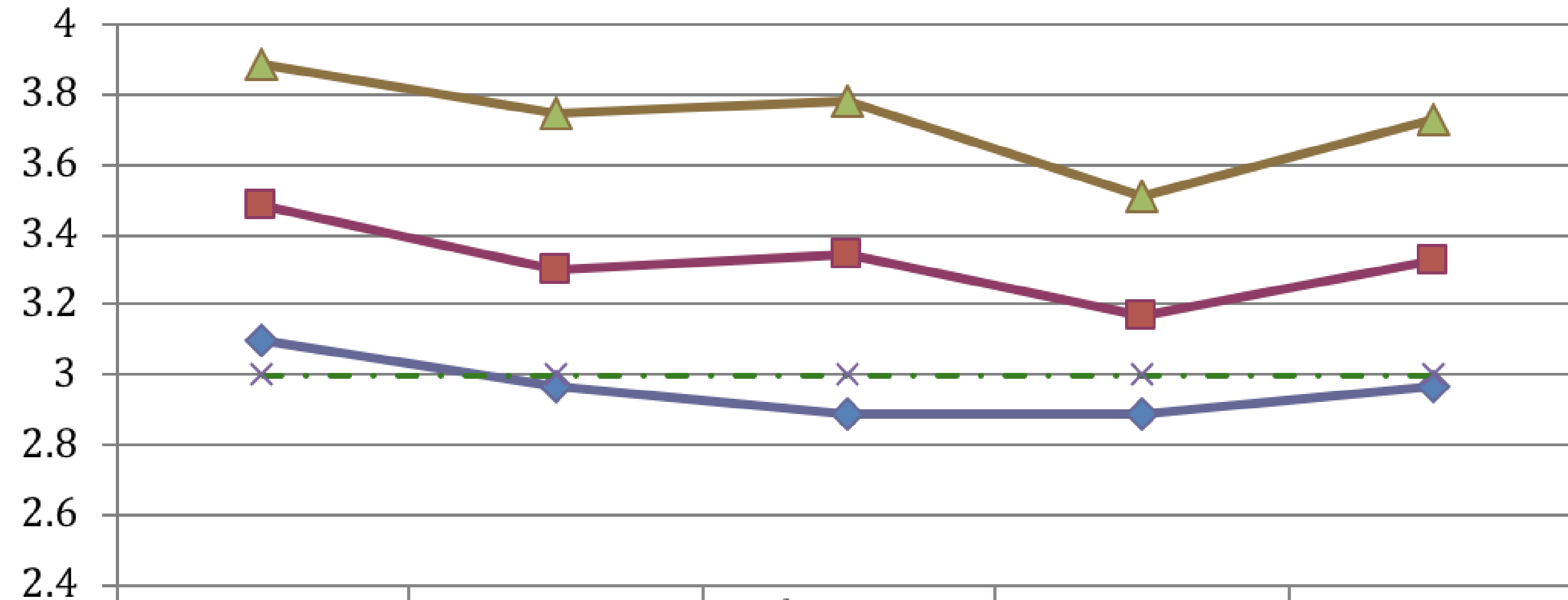
## Assessment Results for all Students, 2011

<b>Term</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Conventions</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Avg.</b>
<b>Fall</b>	<b>3.10</b>	<b>2.97</b>	<b>2.89</b>	<b>2.89</b>	<b>11.85</b>	<b>2.96</b>
<b>Winter</b>	<b>3.48</b>	<b>3.30</b>	<b>3.34</b>	<b>3.17</b>	<b>13.29</b>	<b>3.32</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>.38</b>	<b>.33</b>	<b>.45</b>	<b>.28</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>.36</b>



# Results.2

## Stretch Assessment Average Scores per Category, AY 2010-2011

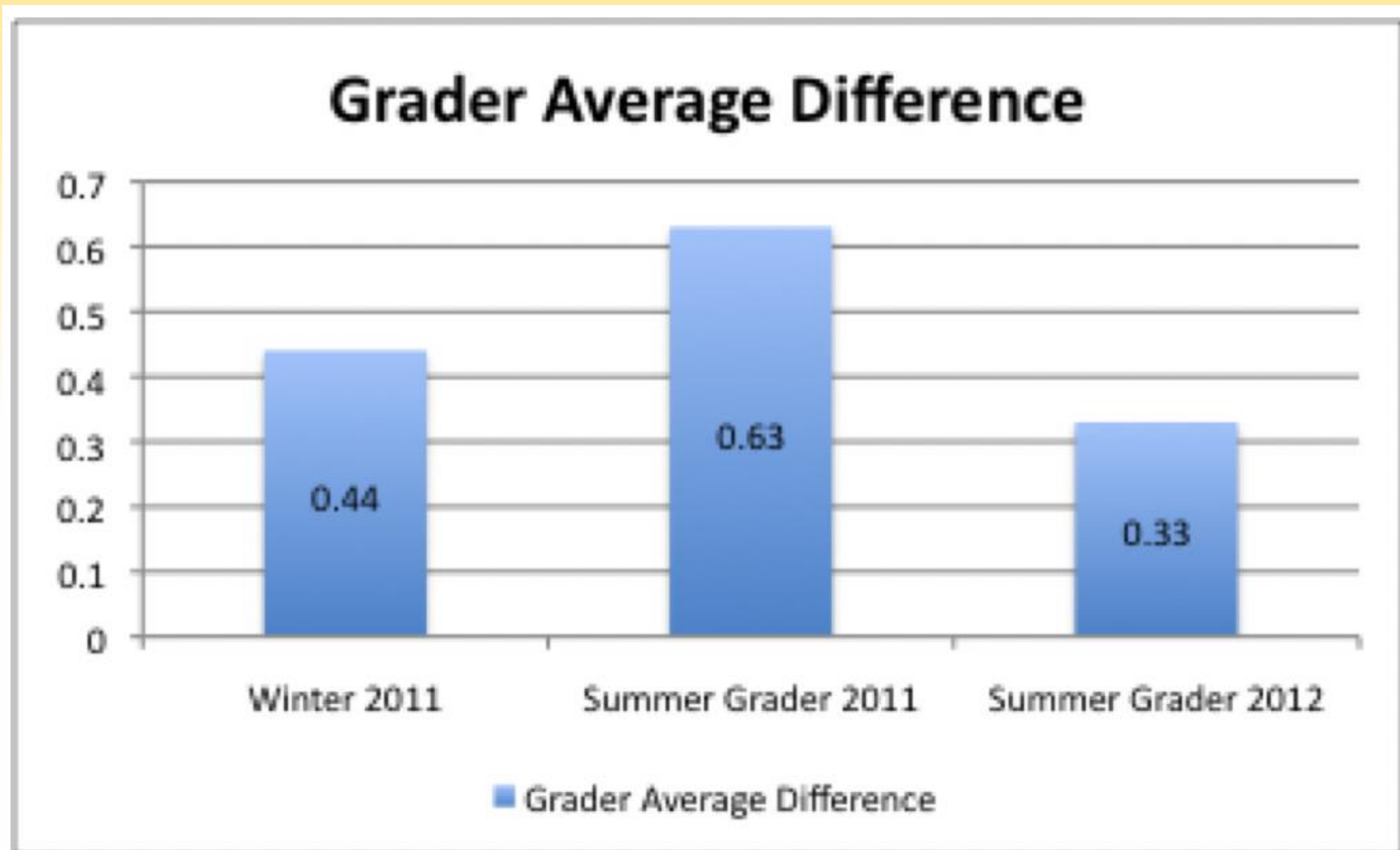


	Content	Organization	Information	Conventions	Avg Tot
Fall	3.1	2.97	2.89	2.89	2.963
Winter	3.48	3.3	3.34	3.17	3.323
Spring	3.89	3.75	3.78	3.51	3.73
Pass Engl 101	3	3	3	3	3

◆ Fall   
 ■ Winter   
 ▲ Spring   
 -x- Pass Engl 101



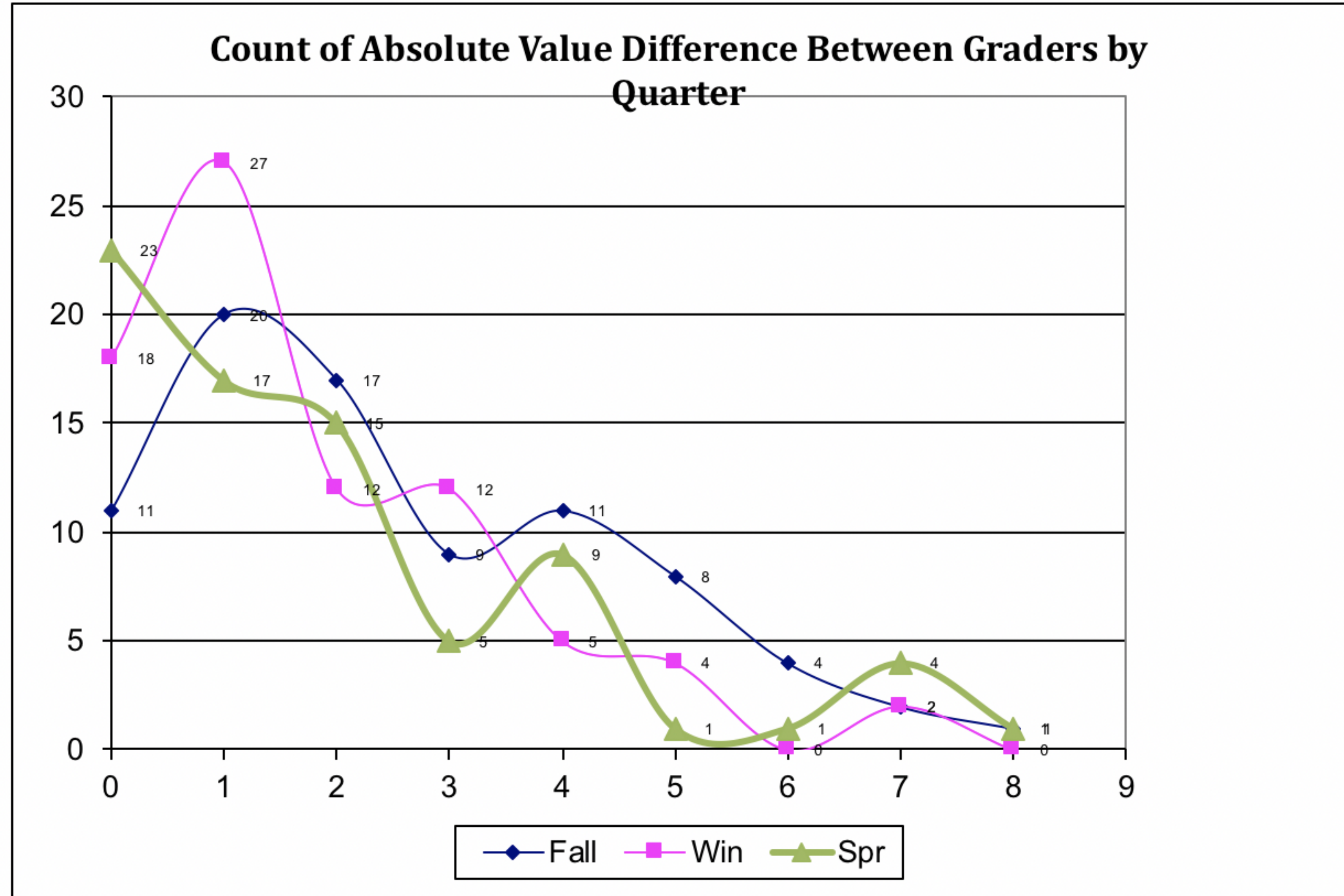
# Validity.1







# Validity.2



A difference of 4 is considered a conflicting score and should later be reevaluated.



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# Contact Us

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