

U1 ESSAY RUBRIC

(wt. 1)

Criteria	Level 1 (50%-59%)	Level 2 (60%-69 %)	Level 3 (70%-79%)	Level 4 (80%-100%)
Knowledge & Understanding				
Do you understand your core text?	Only appears to understand the surface meaning of the text. Makes limited and vague references to events, characters, motifs, and themes in the text.	Demonstrates sufficient understanding of the text. Makes vague references to events, characters, motifs, and themes in the text.	Demonstrates good understanding of the text. Makes some specific references to events, characters, motifs, and themes in the text.	Demonstrates a deep understanding of the text. Frequently makes specific references to events, characters, motifs, and themes in the text.
Do you understand the lens you are using?	Demonstrates limited understanding of chosen lens by making incorrect/ irrelevant references to key terms and concepts.	Demonstrates some understanding of chosen lens by making few references to key terms and concepts.	Demonstrates understanding of chosen lens by referencing key terms and concepts.	Demonstrates keen understanding of chosen lens by referencing key terms and concepts, and adding personal insights.
Thinking & Inquiry				
Is your thesis clear, arguable, and interesting?	Thesis is unclear or not arguable.	Subject of paper is clear, but thesis needs clarification.	Thesis is coherent and arguable.	Thesis is coherent, arguable, and creative.
Do your sub-arguments support your thesis?	Two sub-arguments are present.	Three sub-arguments are present, but there is repetition of ideas in arguments.	Three sub-arguments are clear and distinct.	Three sub-arguments are insightful and distinct.
Does your evidence support your arguments?	Chosen evidence from primary text rarely supports arguments (irrelevant/ vague).	Chosen evidence from primary text sometimes supports arguments (irrelevant/vague).	Chosen evidence from primary text mostly supports arguments.	Chosen evidence from primary text is always relevant and supports arguments (spot on).
Have you successfully explained your primary evidence?	Explanation of primary evidence is limited. The reader is forced to make connections between evidence and arguments or thesis.	Explanation of primary evidence somewhat supports arguments and connects to thesis (unclear/vague)	Explanation of primary evidence supports arguments and connects back to thesis.	Explanation of primary evidence strengthens arguments and connects back to thesis.
Communication				
Have you clearly organized your ideas around a coherent thesis?	Several organizational and structural issues.	One or two organizational structural issues.	Basic essay format is followed and has no significant organizational or structural issues.	Essay structure is organized and has an excellent flow with a great introduction, body and conclusion.
Have you clearly expressed your ideas?	Frequent errors made in regards to spelling, grammar and punctuation.	Some errors made in regards to spelling, grammar and punctuation.	Few errors made in regards to spelling, grammar and punctuation.	Very few to no errors made in regards to spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Application				
Have you successfully completed & applied the writing process and MLA format? (<i>writing process examples: brainstorming, planning & outline, writing, , editing, research</i>)	- Applies little process work and editing to write essay -MLA format not used	- Applies some process work and editing to write essay -MLA format is used, but some elements are missing/incorrect	- Applies considerable process work and editing to write essay -MLA format looks good, minor errors	- Applies extensive process work and editing to write essay -MLA format is perfect

FEEDBACK