

Essay Rubric

Criteria	Complete (full points)	Incomplete (half/no points)
Introduction / Conclusion (6 pts)	Introduces the topic and purpose (why it matters to reader), Conclusion emphasizes how the ideas developed reinforce the thesis	Introduction and conclusion are irrelevant to the essay body or missing/incomplete
Thesis Statement (4 pts)	One sentence clearly states a claim related to the topic	Thesis is missing or occurs at the end of the essay, or does not connect to the topic
Explanation / Focus (10 pts)	Multiple paragraphs support and expand on the thesis, each with a central idea and topic sentence, content remains relevant	Paragraphs include unrelated content, do not connect to thesis, or have many ideas
Evidence / Analysis (10 pts)	The Essay uses multiple sources of strong supporting evidence accurately, along with analysis and explanation that develops the claim	Evidence is missing or weak/unrelated to the claim, transitions between ideas are rough, analysis and explanation do not develop the claim or are lacking
Organization (4 pts)	Essay follows an organized format, includes a title and works cited page, writing maintains logical order, and meets length expectations of assignment	Spacing, font size, etc. do not correlate with assignment instructions, missing title or works cited page, does not meet length expectations of assignment
Mechanics / Grammar (6 pts)	Sentence structure is free of significant grammatical error, thoughts are complete	Frequent grammatical errors occur, fragments of thoughts are not complete