

# Writing assignments grading criteria

Assignments are graded either 1 (okay/good) or 2 (excellent).

## 1. Main Points and Facts

- **Score of 1 (Okay/Good):**
  - Captures the main points but lacks depth or specificity.
  - Points are somewhat generic or surface-level.
  - Fewer than three bullet points, or points that are not detailed.
- **Score of 2 (Excellent):**
  - At least one bullet point is exceptionally well-detailed, demonstrating a deep understanding of the material.
  - Clearly identifies key points with precision, using specific examples or insights from the paper.
  - Provides a concise yet thorough summary of the paper's main arguments.

## 2. Questions

- **Score of 1 (Okay/Good):**
  - Includes basic or general questions that may not reflect deep critical thinking.
  - May lack questions altogether, with insufficient compensation in other sections.
- **Score of 2 (Excellent):**
  - Poses at least one thought-provoking, specific question that shows deep engagement with the material.
  - If no questions are present, the "Opinions, Further Comments, Etc." section is notably expanded to compensate, offering additional analysis or insights.

## 3. Opinions, Further Comments, Etc.

- **Score of 1 (Okay/Good):**
  - Opinions and comments are generic or lack original insight.
  - Provides minimal engagement or reflection on the material.
  - Fewer than three bullet points or points that are not fully developed.
- **Score of 2 (Excellent):**
  - Offers at least one highly insightful, original, or critical opinion or comment.
  - Demonstrates deep personal engagement, possibly connecting the paper to broader themes or external knowledge.
  - Expands this section significantly if there are no questions, providing a well-rounded analysis.

## Overall Evaluation

- **Score of 1 (Okay/Good):**
  - Meets basic requirements but lacks depth in critical thinking or specificity.
  - Only one section might be excellent, and the rest are okay/good.
- **Score of 2 (Excellent):**
  - At least two sections are excellent, demonstrating deep understanding and engagement.
  - If only one section is excellent, the following criteria must be met for an overall score of 2:
    - **Comparison with Related Work or External Sources:** The writing goes beyond the paper alone, incorporating comparisons with related work or external sources, indicating a broader and deeper engagement with the topic.
    - **Polished Writing Format:** The writing is well-formatted, expressive, and potentially includes the ability to express complex ideas (e.g., using mathematical notation or LaTeX where appropriate).