Composition Essay Rubric

**For (author of paper):**

**From (evaluator):**

How to: Check the appropriate rubric boxes and provide explanations below of the ratings.

Using the information: For areas where a writer receives “needs work” or “adequate,” review that area in the Rhetoric associated with that topic (link below) and use the advice when revising.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>needs work</th>
<th>adequate</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>excellent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assignment Fulfillment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the essay respond to all parts of the assignment and effectively fulfill all the requirements?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is the essay an analysis of/argument about the text(s)?</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/3Papertopics.htm">http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/3Papertopics.htm</a></td>
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<td><strong>Thesis/Controlling Idea</strong></td>
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<td>Is the thesis a controlling idea for the essay?</td>
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<td>Is it clear and arguable?</td>
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<td>Does it have a clear “so what?” stating a larger significance?</td>
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<td>Is the thesis a response to and an analysis of the text(s)?</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/7Thesis.htm">http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/7Thesis.htm</a></td>
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<td><strong>Organization/Coherence/Focus</strong></td>
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<td>Is the introduction quick to capture reader interest and strongly orient the reader?</td>
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<td>Is there a logical order of ideas with clear transitions?</td>
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<td>Are there strong topic sentences?</td>
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<td>Does the writer stay on topic within each paragraph?</td>
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<td>Does the conclusion lead to larger implications and/or significance?</td>
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<td>Is the overall essay unified around one clear argument?</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/8Introductions-Conclusions.htm">http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/8Introductions-Conclusions.htm</a></td>
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<td><strong>Development/Support</strong></td>
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<td>Are the arguments fair, reasonable, and logical?</td>
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<td>Is the evidence in the body paragraphs consistently focused on a clear supporting point?</td>
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<td>Are body paragraphs fully developed, insightful, and convincing?</td>
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<td>Is there a balance of textual support and the student's own analysis?</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/9Paragraphs.htm">http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/9Paragraphs.htm</a></td>
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<td><strong>Use of Text</strong></td>
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<td>Are relevant quotes, paraphrases and concepts from the text skillfully integrated to support and illustrate ideas?</td>
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<td>Do they demonstrate sophisticated use of the text(s)?</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/10IntegratingSources.htm">http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/10IntegratingSources.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MLA Formatting and Documentation Skills</strong></td>
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<td>Has MLA format been used including title page and page numbers?</td>
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<td>Are the sources cited within the essay and in the Works Cited done correctly according to MLA format?</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/5MLA.htm">http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/5MLA.htm</a></td>
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<td><strong>Sentence Style</strong></td>
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<td>Do the sentences flow well? Does the writer join sentences to show relationships between ideas?</td>
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<td>Is there sentence variety?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar</strong></td>
<td>4 or more errors/page</td>
<td>3 or fewer errors/page</td>
<td>2 or fewer errors/page</td>
<td>1 or fewer errors/page</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is the essay proofread paying attention to grammar, punctuation, and spelling?</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/14Grammar.htm">http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skyenglish/14Grammar.htm</a></td>
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**Comments:** further explanations behind the scoring choices along with revision advice

*(for more commenting space, insert electronically or attach additional page)*

**For instructor Use—Holistic Essay Grade:**