

Essay Grading Rubric

Grade of 23 – 25 (A)

The writing will be exceptional.

Strong thesis statement in the introductory paragraph

The ideas will be well organized and presented clearly and coherently

Strong supporting facts will be used in the body of the essay

Content of essay is accurate and relevant to the question

Exceptional analysis of facts and interpretations

The question is answered thoroughly

There will be three or more concrete examples that support the thesis statement

Essay includes appropriate and relevant facts

The grammar, punctuation, and spelling will be correct.

Grade of 20 – 22 (B)

The writing will be very good.

A very good thesis statement in the introductory paragraph

All necessary information is presented clearly and accurately

Ideas are developed thoroughly with the use of appropriate examples

Organization of information and flow of writing is very good

The question will be answered

There will be two or more concrete examples that support the thesis statement

There will be few grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors

Grade of 18 – 19 (C)

Writing will be competent

Weak thesis statement

Essay structure will be less evident

Major points will be presented with less detail and accuracy

Organization of the information is less clear

Weak organization including digression from the topic

Few supporting materials

There will be one concrete example to support the thesis statement

There will be several grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors

Use of inappropriate language

Grade of 16 – 17 (D)

Writing is flawed

No thesis statement or a weak thesis statement

Essay structure not evident

Inaccurate detail and support

No concrete examples to support thesis statement

Essay is brief and does not answer the question

Essay is vague

Incorrect use of grammar, punctuation, and spelling

Run on sentences or fragmented sentences

Grade 0 - 15 (F)

Assignment is not completed

Writing is highly flawed

No thesis statement

Essay is off the topic

Facts are incorrect

Opinion is presented as fact with no supporting material

Essay is brief and does not answer the question

Essay skirts all viable issues and perspectives

It is obvious to the reader that the writer is not using facts in the essay; the essay resembles creative writing instead

Incorrect use of grammar, punctuation, and spelling

Poor sentence structure