

Essay Grading Rubric:

Essays will be graded based on the following scoring guide.

6 = Student displays depth of knowledge of the topic, providing a strong analysis of the topic in a clear, concise manner. There is a clear thesis, which is proven in the text of the essay. The essay is organized in a manner that is logical and that allows the material to flow easily from one point to the next. Student writes in complex manner, providing varying sentence structure, which adds interest to the essay. The essay is free or nearly free of mechanical and grammatical errors. The essay fulfills the requirements presented in the assignment.

5 = Student displays keen knowledge of the topic and provides a strong, well-developed thesis, developing the essay around this thesis. The arguments are presented in a logical manner and allow the essay to flow from one idea to the next with minor adjustments needed. Student provides some varying sentence structure, which adds interest to the essay. The essay contains few grammatical or mechanical errors and fulfills the requirements presented in the assignment.

4 = Student displays knowledge of the topic and provides a strong thesis. The essay develops around this thesis with some adjustments needed. The arguments may lack a logical sequence and may not support the thesis. Student provides little varying sentence structure, which adds interest to the essay. The essay contains few grammatical or mechanical errors, yet fulfills the requirements presented in the assignment.

3 = Student displays knowledge of the topic. The essay may contain either a weak thesis or weak arguments not written in a clear, concise manner. The essay contains grammatical or mechanical errors, which hinder the effectiveness of the essay. Student provides almost no varying sentence structure, which creates a dull essay. The essay weakly satisfies the requirements presented in the assignment.

2 = Student displays some knowledge of the topic. The essay may contain either a weak thesis or weak arguments not written in a clear, concise manner. The essay contains grammatical or mechanical errors, which hinder the effectiveness of the essay and the ideas in the thesis are unsupported throughout. Student provides no varying sentence structure. The essay does not satisfy the requirements presented in the assignment.

1 = Student displays little knowledge of the topic. The essay contains both a weak thesis and weak arguments not written in a clear, concise manner. The essay contains many grammatical or mechanical errors. Student provides no varying sentence structure. The essay fails to satisfy the requirements presented in the assignment.