

University Writing Assessment Analytical Rubric

1. *Organization & Focus*

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|----|---|--------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| a. | Does the essay address the prompt? | Yes | No | | |
| b. | Is the focus of the essay made clear either explicitly or implicitly? | Yes | No | | |
| c. | Is paragraphing logical and effective? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| d. | Does the structure make understanding it clear and straightforward? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | | |
| | Circle one: | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

2. *Development*

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|--------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| a. | Is the opening well developed and enticing? | Yes | No | | |
| b. | Is the body of the essay developed well enough to be interesting, effective, and convincing? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| c. | Do body paragraphs provide detailed evidence & thorough discussion? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| d. | Is the ending adequately developed and does it provide satisfying closure to the argument? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | | |
| | Circle one: | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

3. *Logic & Coherence*

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|--------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| a. | Do reasons logically support the thesis? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| b. | Does the writer provide evidence in support of each reason? | Yes | No | | |
| c. | Does evidence logically support the reasons? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| d. | Does the writer avoid fallacies, off-topic comments, and errors of fact? | Yes | No | | |
| e. | Is the writer's thinking clear, reasonable, and logical? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| f. | Does the writer use transitions to create logical connections between ideas? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | | |
| | Circle one: | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

4. *Syntax & Style*

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|--------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| a. | Does the writer's diction and syntax create a distinctive voice? | Yes | No | | |
| b. | Is the writer's diction precise and accurate? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| c. | Is the writer's syntax free of non-standard constructions? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| d. | Does the writer use active-voice constructions? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| e. | Does the writer use a variety of sentence structures and lengths? | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| f. | Is the writer's vocabulary sophisticated? | competent? | simple? | | |
| | Circle one: | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

5. *Mechanics*

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| a. | The writer avoids spelling errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| b. | The writer avoids sentence structure errors (fragments, run-ons, comma splices) | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| c. | The writer avoids s-v agreement errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| d. | The writer avoids preposition errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| e. | The writer avoids word choice errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| f. | The writer avoids verb form errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| g. | The writer avoids adj./adv. form errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| h. | The writer avoids pronoun/referent errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| i. | The writer avoids article errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| j. | The writer avoids punctuation errors | consistently | frequently | occasionally | rarely |
| k. | The writer avoids capitalization errors | <u>consistently</u> | <u>frequently</u> | <u>occasionally</u> | <u>rarely</u> |
| | Circle one: | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

Analytical Score for Essay: + 4 - + 3 - + 2 - + 1 -