

Name _____

Date _____

Course _____

Section _____

Professor _____

Rubric: The Essay

Category	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Satisfactory (3)	Average (2)	Deficient (1)	Score
Introduction and Thesis Statement	The introductory paragraph has a strong hook that grabs the attention of the audience. The thesis statement names the topic and outlines the main points to be discussed.	The introductory paragraph has a thesis statement which names the topic and outlines the main points to be discussed.	The introductory paragraph has a thesis statement but doesn't include all the main points to be discussed	The introductory paragraph is not clear and includes no main points to be discussed.	The introductory paragraph does not include a thesis statement or introductory paragraph.	
Sentence Structure	Sentences are well-built with varied structure.	Most sentences are well-built and present some varied sentence structure.	Most sentences are well-built, but there is no variation in sentence structure.	Most sentences are not well-built or present variation in sentence structure.	Sentences are not well-built and lacks variation in sentence structure.	
Grammar and Spelling	No errors in grammar or spelling.	One or two errors in grammar or spelling.	Three or four errors in grammar or spelling.	Five or six grammar and spelling errors.	Difficult to read or understand due to numerous grammar and spelling mistakes.	
Capitalization and Punctuation	No errors in capitalization or punctuation.	One or two errors in capitalization or punctuation.	Three or four errors in capitalization or punctuation.	Five or six errors in capitalization and punctuation.	Numerous amount of capitalization and punctuation errors.	

Category	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Satisfactory (3)	Average (2)	Deficient (1)	Score
Sequency	Arguments and support are provided in a logical sequence, easy to understand and effective transitions are used.	Arguments and support are provided in a fairly logical sequence, easy to understand and effective transitions are used.	Some of the support or arguments are not in the expected logical sequence making it difficult to understand.	Most of the support or arguments are not in the expected logical sequence due to inadequate transitions.	Lacks logical sequence and presents a rambling format.	
Closing Paragraph or Conclusion	The conclusion is strong and the reader understands the writer's position. Effective restatement of the thesis statement begins the closing paragraph.	The conclusion is stated. The writer's position is reaffirmed within the paragraph.	The conclusion is stated weakly not referring to the thesis statement.	The conclusion does not restate the thesis statement.	Conclusion is missing.	
Sources	All sources used for quotes, statistics, and facts are reliable, cited and documented correctly using the MLA or APA style.	All sources used for quotes, statistics and facts are reliable and generally are cited and documented correctly using the MLA or APA style.	Most sources used for quotes, statistics and facts are reliable and cited correctly using the MLA or APA style.	Many sources are not credible and/or not cited or documented correctly.	Sources of information not cited or documented; many errors of facts.	

Instructions: To receive the maximum punctuation, it is necessary to meet all the specifications of each category. The punctuation will be assigned according to the following scales:

5. **Excellent** 4. **Good** 3. **Satisfactory** 2. **Average** 1. **Deficient**