

Sample Template of Basic Essay Writing Rubric
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	Excellent/8	Very Good/6	Average/4	Needs Improvement/2	Unacceptable/0
Organization	The essay contains stiff topic sentences and a controlled organization.	The essay contains a logical and appropriate organization. The writer uses clear topic sentences.	The essay reveals an attempted organization but contains unclear and inappropriate topic sentences.	The essay has an inconsistent organization.	The essay shows the absence of a planned organization.
Style	The paper reveals an influential writer's voice and a precise tone. The student uses effective sentence structures and word choices.	The paper contains precise and varied sentence structures and word choices.	The paper follows a limited but mostly correct sentence structure. There are different sentence structures and word choices.	The paper contains several awkward and unclear sentences. There are some problems with word choices.	The writer does not contain apparent control over sentence structures and word choice.
Content	The content appears sophisticated and contains well-developed ideas.	The essay content appears illustrative and balanced.	The essay contains unbalanced content that requires more analysis.	The essay contains a lot of research information without analysis or commentary.	The essay lacks relevant content and does not fit the thesis statement.
Thesis	The essay contains a clearly stated and focused thesis statement.	The written piece comprises a clearly stated argument. However, the focus would have been sharper.	The thesis phrasing sounds simple and lacks complexity. The writer does not word the thesis correctly.	The thesis statement requires a clear objective and does not fit the theme in the content of the essay.	The thesis is not evident in the introduction.
Ideas	The essay is clear and focused. The work holds the reader's attention. Besides, the relevant details and quotes enrich the	The essay is mostly focused and contains a few useful details and quotes.	The writer begins the work by defining the topic. However, the development of ideas appears	The author fails to define the topic well, or the writer focuses on several issues.	The essay lacks a clear sense of a purpose or thesis statement. Readers have to make suggestions based on

	thesis statement.		general.		sketchy or missing ideas to understand the intended meaning.
Sentence Fluency	The essay has a natural flow, rhythm, and cadence. The sentences are well built and have a wide-ranging and robust structure that enhances reading.	The ideas mostly flow and motivate a compelling reading.	The text hums along with a balanced beat but tends to be more businesslike than musical. Besides, the flow of ideas tends to become more mechanical than fluid.	The essay appears irregular and hard to read.	Readers have to go through the essay several times to give this paper a fair interpretive reading.
Conventions	The student demonstrates proper use of standard writing conventions, like spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, usage, and paragraphing. The student uses protocols in a way that improves the readability of the essay.	The student demonstrates proper writing conventions and uses them correctly. One can read the essay with ease, and errors are rare. Few touch-ups can make the composition ready for publishing.	The writer shows reasonable control over a short range of standard writing rules. The writer handles all the conventions and enhances readability. The errors in the essay tend to distract and impair legibility.	The writer makes an effort to use various conventions, including spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and paragraphing. The essay contains multiple errors.	The author makes repetitive errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, usage, and paragraphing. Some mistakes distract readers and make it hard to understand the concepts.
Presentation	The form and presentation of the text enhance the readability of the essay and the flow of ideas.	The format has few mistakes and is easy to read.	The writer's message is understandable in this format.	The writer's message is only comprehensible infrequently, and the paper appears disorganized.	Readers receive a distorted message due to difficulties connecting to the presentation of the text.

Grading Scheme:

A+ = 60+ points

A = 55-59 points

A- = 50-54 points

B+ = 45-49 points

B = 40-44 points

B- = 35-39 points

C+ = 30-34 points

C = 25-29 points

C- = 20-24 points

D = 10-19 points

F = less than 9 points