

## Grading Rubric (English 1 Essay One)

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CATEGORY	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Proficient (2)	Unacceptable (1)	Score
<b>Introduction</b>	Strong introduction of topic's key elements. Clearly delineates the paper's focus and purpose.	Conveys topic and clearly delineates the paper's focus	Conveys topic, but not essay's purpose/focus.	Does not adequately introduce topic. Lacks adequate focus/purpose.	
<b>Focus &amp; Sequencing</b>	All evidence clearly relates to topic. Strong organization and integration of support. Strong transitions linking evidence with essay's purpose.	All evidence clearly relates to topic. Logical organization of ideas. Clear, varied transitions linking evidence with the essay's purpose.	Most evidence clearly relates to topic. Attempts to provide variety of transitions linking evidence with the essay's purpose.	Little evidence. Lack of organization. Many transitions are unclear or nonexistent.	
<b>Conclusion</b>	Strong integration with thesis statement. Insightful discussion of impact of the issue.	Strong integration with thesis statement. Discusses impact of issue and connects to essay's overall purpose.	Some integration with thesis statement. Discusses impact of essay's focus.	Merely restates or summarizes essay points. Does not emphasize thesis statement. Does not discuss the impact of essay's focus.	
<b>Grammar &amp; Mechanics</b>	The paper is free of grammatical errors and spelling and punctuation.	Grammatical errors or spelling and punctuation are minimal and do not detract from the paper.	Grammatical errors or spelling and punctuation errors are few and do not interfere with reading the paper.	Grammatical errors or spelling and punctuation substantially detract from the paper.	
<b>Voice, tone, style</b>	Scholarly style. Writing is flowing and easy to follow.	Scholarly style. Writing has no awkward or unclear passages.	Word choice occasionally informal in tone. Writing has minimal awkward or unclear passages.	Word choice is informal in tone. Writing is choppy, with many awkward or unclear passages.	
<b>MLA Format and Citations</b>	The paper is free of MLA format errors.	Minimal errors with heading, header, margins, and citations.	Distracting errors with heading, header, margins, and citations.	Heading, header, margins, and citations are incorrect (or missing altogether).	

Essay Grade = \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>i</sup> Rubric created by Lisa Fitzgerald for English 1: Reading and Composition. Feb. 15, 2016.