

Analytical Essay Grading Rubric Example

Student Name: _____

Essay Title: _____

Criteria	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)
Thesis & Focus	Clear, insightful thesis; consistent focus.	Thesis is clear; focus is mostly maintained.	Thesis is present but may be unclear; some loss of focus.	Thesis missing or unclear; unfocused essay.
Analysis & Argument	Thorough analysis with strong, original argumentation.	Good analysis and logical argument.	Basic analysis; arguments lack depth.	Little or no analysis; weak argument.
Evidence & Support	Relevant, specific evidence; fully supports thesis.	Uses evidence appropriately; mostly supports thesis.	Some evidence; gaps in support.	Insufficient or irrelevant evidence.
Organization	Well-organized, logical progression of ideas.	Generally organized; minor lapses in flow.	Some organizational issues; ideas may jump.	Poorly organized; ideas lack order.
Style & Clarity	Clear, concise, and effective writing; skillful use of language.	Generally clear; some lapses in conciseness or style.	Language occasionally unclear or awkward.	Frequent unclear or confusing language.
Mechanics	Free of noticeable grammatical or spelling errors.	Few minor errors.	Some errors; do not seriously impede understanding.	Frequent errors; hinder understanding.

Comments:

Total Score: _____ / 24