

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Essay Project #: \_\_\_\_\_

## Essay Project Grading Rubric

\_\_\_\_\_ C

If your essay meets these first three standards, you will earn a grade of C (70-79).

1. **Unity**

- Contains a specific and controlling purpose (often, a "thesis") which is maintained throughout the essay.
- Organizes writing according to the organizational requirements of the particular assignment.

2. **Evidence/Development**

- Develops appropriate, logical, and relevant supporting detail and/or evidence.
- Includes more specific, concrete evidence (or details), with minimal opinion or abstract, general commentary.

3. **Presentation and Design**

- Follows GCRG guidelines for Standard English grammar, punctuation, usage, and documentation.
- Meets the assigned requirements for length, format, and documentation.

\_\_\_\_\_ B

If you meet all of the standards above for a C and, in addition, achieve Coherence and Readership Awareness, you will earn a grade of B (80-89).

4. **Coherence**

- Uses words and sentences, rhythm and phrasing, variations and transitions, concreteness and specificity to reveal and emphasize the relationship between facts and opinions.
- Explains how, why, or in what way evidence/detail supports claim/thesis/topic/ideas.
- Incorporates any evidence from outside sources smoothly, appropriately, and responsibly.

5. **Readership Awareness**

- Demonstrates a sense that the writer is addressing a clearly defined readership.
- Carefully considers and addresses the values of its readership (e.g., common ground, trustworthiness, careful research).

\_\_\_\_\_ A

If you meet all of the standards above for a C and for a B and, in addition, demonstrate a mastery of one or more features of superior writing, you will earn a grade of A (90-100).

6. **Distinction**

- Your writing stands out because of one or more of the following characteristics: complexity, originality, seamless coherence, extraordinary control, sophistication in thought, recognizable voice, compelling purpose, imagination, insight, thoroughness, and/or depth.

Essay Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ +/- Points for special assignment requirements \_\_\_\_\_ =

Final Grade
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\_\_\_\_\_ D or F

If your essay does not meet the first three standards, either because you have minor problems in all areas or major problems in one or two areas, you will earn a grade of D (60-69) or F (<60), and you should schedule a conference with your teacher.