**Essay Writing Rubric for English 9 and 10**

The piece works, but The piece needs

Mostly adheres with Mostly adheres a number of issues numerous revisions

a few, minor deviations with less success need to be addressed and additions\*

90-100 80-89 70-79 65-70

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Content** -- Essay addresses the task with a clear thesis/main idea that guides the overall piece. Essay remains focused on the main idea throughout, but incorporates relevant subtopics and arguments. |  |  |  |  |
| **Development** -- Overall development is full of relevant details and full explanation of big ideas. Analyses are varied and sophisticated (deep). Sufficient context helps it all make sense. |  |  |  |  |
| **Organization**:  Essay as a whole- Flow from paragraph to paragraph is logical, as ideas progress from good to best: writer uses transitions. Strongest arguments are saved for last.  Paragraphs - start with transitions, general topic sentences that encompass the analyses developed in the paragraph (everything after the TS is related and ideas get stronger as it evolves). |  |  |  |  |
| **Clarity** -- Communication is clear because of precise word choice coupled with correct grammar: spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation make your ideas and/or arguments clear and powerful. |  |  |  |  |
| **Accuracy and Understanding** -- Flawless interpretation of the task and/or text, and logical analyses and arguments follow from this solid foundation. |  |  |  |  |
| **Style** -- Essay shows effort to take risks to develop a unique writing voice that balances this effort with the necessary clarity. |  |  |  |  |
| **Follows guidelines and directions**  (This includes full MLA format) Papers must be double spaced for teacher’s instructive comments.. |  |  |  |  |

\*Pieces that fall under a number of these categories for this column will need to be rewritten.