

Instructor feedback for: (student name)

The Components of a Successful Composition Essay

Criteria	1 needs work	2 adequate	3 good	4 excellent
Assignment Fulfillment Does the essay respond to all parts of the assignment and effectively fulfill all the requirements? Is the essay an analysis of/argument about the text(s)?				
Thesis/Controlling Idea Is the thesis a controlling idea for the essay? Is it clear and arguable? Does it have a clear "so what?" stating a larger significance? Is the thesis a response to and an analysis of the text(s)?				
Organization/Coherence/Focus Is the introduction quick to capture reader interest and strongly orient the reader? Is there a logical order of ideas with clear transitions? Are there strong topic sentences? Does the writer stay on topic within each paragraph? Does the conclusion lead to larger implications and/or significance? Is the overall essay unified around one clear argument?				
Development/Support Are the arguments fair, reasonable, and logical? Is the evidence in the body paragraphs consistently focused on a clear supporting point? Are body paragraphs fully developed, insightful, and convincing? Is there a balance of textual support and the student's own analysis?				
Use of Text Are relevant quotes, paraphrases and concepts from the text skillfully integrated to support and illustrate ideas? Do they demonstrate sophisticated use of the text(s)?				
Documentation Skills Are the sources cited within the essay and in the Works Cited done correctly according to MLA format?				
Sentence Style Do the sentences flow well? Does the writer join sentences to show relationships between ideas? Is there sentence variety?				
Grammar Is the essay proofread paying attention to grammar, punctuation, and spelling?	4 or more errors/page	3 or fewer errors/page	2 or fewer errors/page	1 or fewer errors/page

Comments:

Overall Holistic Essay Grade: