

Rubric for Essay

	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points	5 Points
Thesis Statement	No thesis statement.	Thesis statement contains main idea.	Thesis statement contains main idea and an opinion.	Thesis statement contains main idea, an opinion and at least 2 examples.	Thesis statement contains main idea, an opinion and 3 examples.
Documents Used to Support Thesis Statement	No documents cited.	1 or more documents cited. Documents are not well chosen to support thesis.	2 or more documents cited. At least 1 of the documents is not well chosen.	3 or more documents cited. 2 of the documents are well chosen.	3 or more documents cited. Documents are all very well chosen to support thesis.
Understanding and Explanation of Documents and Information	There is no explanation of how documents support thesis. Essay does not show understanding at all.	There is some attempt to explain how documents support thesis. There are still some misunderstandings about document and/or content.	The answer is explained with no misunderstandings . There is a surface explanation as to how the documents support thesis. Answer is simply what was said in class.	The answer is explained with no misunderstandings . The explanation as to how the documents support the thesis is mostly on the surface. Answer is partially what was said in class but shows some additional understanding from student.	The answer is explained with no misunderstandings . The explanation of how documents support the thesis is not surface. Answer is insightful and goes beyond what was said in class. Answer shows additional understanding from student.
General Knowledge of Subject	Entire essay is full of factual errors.	Many errors are present. Minor information is correct.	Essay has few errors. Most information is correct.	All important information is correct. Errors are minor only.	There are no factual errors present in essay.
Grammar, Usage and Mechanics	Errors are so numerous that it is difficult to read.	Errors are distracting. Some end punctuation is correct.	Some problems with grammar or usage, but not enough to distort meaning.	Grammar, usage and punctuation generally correct. Some editing needed.	Grammar, usage and punctuation correct. Few errors.