

HSD3 Expository Essay Rubric

	Exceptional 5	Advanced 4	Proficient 3	Developing 2	Inadequate 1
Ideas The essay introduces a clear position (thesis) that remains the focus of the paper.	The ideas presented in the essay are <u>original</u> , <u>creative</u> and <u>impressive</u> in addressing the prompt.	The ideas in the essay are clear and often <u>insightful</u> while addressing the prompt.	The essay <u>clearly</u> and <u>consistently</u> addresses the prompt.	Ideas in the essay attempt to address the prompt, but they <u>lack focus and clarity</u> .	The essays fail to address the prompt, and the ideas are frequently irrelevant.
Organization The essay skillfully orients reader to topic(s) and uses structure (paragraphing) with transitions to provide logical progression.	The paper flows <u>smoothly</u> with <u>style</u> . Thoughtful transitions create cohesion. <u>Inviting</u> intro/satisfying conclusion.	The paper flows smoothly with some effective transitions. Intro/conclusion are well written.	The order makes sense and uses some transitions. There is a recognizable intro/conclusion.	The essay may feel disjointed or awkward. Transitions may be present but sometimes fail. Intro/conclusion may or may not make sense in the context.	The essay lacks order, is awkward to read, or does not tie together. Intro/conclusion/transition words may be non-existent.
Development The essay provides numerous examples and support for the position (thesis).	The essay contains relevant, accurate, often insightful details that go beyond the obvious and develop the writer's position.	The essay contains original examples that support and develop the writer's position and go beyond the obvious.	The essay contains examples that support the writer's position. The writer attempts to go beyond the obvious.	The writer has difficulty going from general observations to specifics. Ideas may not be detailed, personalized, accurate, or expanded.	The essay provides no relevant examples of support.
Language The essay displays a strong command of language, with precise word choice and varied sentence structures.	The essay uses sophisticated, engaging, accurate words. Writing has an easy flow; sentences vary in length and structure.	The essay has clear, fluent sentences enhanced by effective word choice.	The essay contains complete sentences that are constructed correctly but maybe not artfully. Words make sense but are often uninteresting.	Sentences may be choppy, incomplete, rambling or awkward. They may continually begin the same way. Word usage is weak, repetitive, or incorrect.	The essay is difficult to follow due to distracting, incorrect usage of sentences and words.
Conventions The essay demonstrates an obvious command of Standard American English including citations (if required).	The essay displays <u>intentional</u> , stylistic grammar with correct punctuation, citations (if required) and spelling.	The essay displays <u>consistent</u> and correct grammar, punctuation, citations (if required) and spelling.	The essay displays <u>generally</u> correct grammar, punctuation, citations and spelling.	The essay contains <u>distracting</u> mistakes in grammar, punctuation, citations (if required) and spelling.	The punctuation, grammar, and spelling mistakes make the text difficult to read. Citations (if required) are missing or incorrect.

Essay Holistic Score: _____

Score Conversion Chart

Holistic Score	Percentage	Sample Gradebook Score (x out of 25)
5.0	100	24-25
4.5	92	22-23
4.0	84	20-21
3.5	76	19
3.0	72	17-18
2.5	64	16
2.0	60	15
1.5	56	14
1.0	52	13
0.5	48	1-12

Evaluator Comments: