

ENG 102 Academic Assessment: Primary Trait Analysis

Paper # _____

Assessor # _____

Students who complete ENG 102 with a C or higher will be able to demonstrate the following:

- A. Essay has a clear thesis.
 - 1. Essay has an excellent thesis that is clear and well stated.
 - 2. Essay has a good thesis that is clear, if not well stated.
 - 3. Essay has a fair thesis that is not completely specific.
 - 4. Essay has a vague thesis that is too general.
 - 5. Essay has no thesis.

- B. Essay supports and develops a clear argument on a topic/the thesis.
 - 1. Essay supports/develops thesis very effectively.
 - 2. Essay supports/develops thesis but only adequately.
 - 3. Essay has some support not related to the thesis **or** does not develop the support thoroughly.
 - 4. Essay has little support that is related to the thesis **and** does not develop the support thoroughly.
 - 5. Essay has little that supports or develops the stated thesis.

- C. Essay is clearly organized.
 - 1. Essay has excellent organization. Essay flows in a logical way and is presented in an interesting way.
 - 2. Essay has a clear, if not unique, organization.
 - 3. Essay's organization has a number of weak areas that break the logical flow of the essay.
 - 4. Essay's organization has many weaknesses that break the logical flow of the essay.
 - 5. Essay has no clear organization.

- D. Essay demonstrates a specific purpose and audience through use of tone and style (i.e. uses the words and style of the discipline).
 - 1. The essay exhibits recognition of a specific audience and purpose and demonstrates sophistication of tone and style appropriate for a specific audience and purpose.
 - 2. The essay exhibits recognition of a specific audience and purpose but may not demonstrate much sophistication of tone and style appropriate for a specific audience and purpose.
 - 3. The essay exhibits recognition of a specific audience and purpose but has a tone and/or style that do not always work for that specific audience and purpose.
 - 4. The essay exhibits only a general understanding of a specific audience and purpose; and/or tone and style are poor for the intended audience and purpose.
 - 5. The essay exhibits no recognition of audience and purpose.

- E. Essay demonstrates an effective use of library / Internet resources and/or primary research.
 - 1. Essay exhibits an excellent range of perspectives (i.e., sources drawn from a variety of source types and different viewpoints where appropriate).
 - 2. Essay exhibits a moderate range of perspectives (i.e., sources drawn from a variety of source types and different viewpoints where appropriate).
 - 3. Essay exhibits a fair range of perspectives (i.e., sources drawn from a variety of source types and different viewpoints where appropriate).
 - 4. Essay exhibits a poor range of perspectives (i.e., sources drawn from a variety of source types and different viewpoints where appropriate).
 - 5. Essay has no range of perspectives.

- F. Essay incorporates summary and paraphrase to support the argument.
 - 1. Essay demonstrates accurate and well-phrased summary and paraphrasing.
 - 2. Essay demonstrates good summary and paraphrasing but shows a few minor problems of accuracy and/or phrasing.
 - 3. Essay demonstrates fair skills in summary and paraphrasing. Some minor problems of accuracy and/or phrasing.
 - 4. Essay has many errors in summary and paraphrasing.
 - 5. Essay does not demonstrate the ability to summarize and paraphrase.

- G. Essay has excellent analysis and critique of subject matter.
 - 1. Essay has excellent analysis and critique of subject matter.
 - 2. Essay has good analysis and critique of subject matter.
 - 3. Essay has a fair analysis and critique of subject matter.
 - 4. Essay has a poor analysis and critique of subject matter.
 - 5. Essay has no real analysis or critique of subject matter.

- H. Essay has accurately documented source materials (MLA or APA preferred);
 - 1. Correctly uses a widely accepted form of documentation. Few and minor errors (Errors should not confuse the documentation). Author is introduced at the beginning of borrowed material and the end of its use is clearly delineated.
 - 2. Correctly uses a widely accepted form of documentation. A medium number of errors. A few create confusion, but most are minor. Author is introduced at the beginning of borrowed material and the end of its use is clearly delineated.
 - 3. Correctly uses a widely accepted form of documentation. A large number of errors. Some create confusion but most are minor. Most of the time, the author is introduced at the beginning of borrowed material and the end of its use is clearly delineated.
 - 4. Essay has a very large number of errors indicating lack of knowledge of correct documentation form. Author is not introduced at the beginning of borrowed material very often and the end of its use is not clearly delineated most of the time. Inadvertent plagiarism has been caused by the poor documentation.
 - 5. Does not use a widely accepted form of documentation. Plagiarism is rampant in the paper.

- I. Student conducted a research project and wrote an extended (8-12 pp.) research essay.
1. Paper explores issues critically, specifically, and fully and employs extensive research.
 2. Paper explores issues somewhat critically, specifically, and fully at a moderate level and/or includes a moderate level of research.
 3. Paper explores issues somewhat critically and specifically, but less than fully, and includes a minimum level of research.
 4. Paper does not explore issue critically, specifically, or fully but includes a minimum level of research.
 5. Paper does not explore issues critically and specifically and does not include a minimum level of research.
- J. Use appropriate professional writing formatting (**for career-oriented sections**).
1. Report demonstrates excellent ability to use formatting such as headings, front/back matter, visuals, technical paragraphing, etc.
 2. Report demonstrates moderate ability to use formatting such as headings, front/back matter, visuals, technical paragraphing, etc. There are some errors in presentation, but otherwise the expected professional writing format is used.
 3. Report demonstrates fair ability to use formatting such as headings, front/back matter, visuals, technical paragraphing, etc. There are many errors in presentation and/or a few matters of expected professional writing formatting missing.
 4. Report demonstrates poor ability to use formatting such as headings, front/back matter, visuals, technical paragraphing, etc. The document can be distinguished from an academic research paper only marginally.
 5. The document cannot be distinguished from an academic research paper.
- K. Essay demonstrates a command of grammar and punctuation.
1. Essay has few minor errors and none that distract the reader or hamper meaning.
 2. Essay has some minor errors and/or a few to no major errors but none that distract the reader or hamper meaning.
 3. Essay has many minor errors and/or a few major errors that distract the reader and a few that hamper meaning.
 4. Essay has many minor errors and/or many major errors that distract the reader and hamper meaning.
 5. Essay has a large number of both types of errors. Errors make understanding essay difficult to impossible.

Minor: Errors that could be overlooked by a reader or that do not hamper the understanding of the sentence. These might include incorrect end punctuation (for example, a period instead of a question mark), a missing capital, or a missing comma with an introductory phrase. Minor errors are a distraction, but they usually do not hamper the reader from understanding the writing.

Major: Errors that hinder the correct reading of the writing. Wrong words, misplaced modifiers, incorrectly used commas can all be major errors if they make meaning ambiguous and unclear. A number of minor errors in one sentence or a group of sentences can make the reading incomprehensible, and thus these errors become a major error.

I would give this essay a grade of _____.

Do you base this grade largely on the above criteria? Yes No

If other criteria were important, please list briefly here or on the back.