

Content Rubric

English IV, Carty

100%

- **Thesis**¹ is an accurate and insightful response to the prompt.
- Essay features a wide variety of relevant, well-developed **ideas**. Essay is highly substantial² and particularly persuasive.
- All ideas are supported with a wide variety of specific, relevant **evidence**. The writer demonstrates an expert's knowledge of the material.

88%

- **Thesis** is an appropriate response to the prompt.
- Essay features several relevant, well-developed **ideas**. Essay is substantial and persuasive.
- Essay features several pieces of specific, relevant **evidence**. The writer demonstrates a strong knowledge of the material.

80%

- **Thesis** is a reasonable response to the prompt.
- Essay features multiple relevant and adequately developed **ideas**. Essay is moderately substantial and persuasive.
- Essay features multiple pieces of specific, relevant **evidence**. The writer demonstrates a general knowledge of the material.

73%

- **Thesis** may be partial (ignoring part of the prompt), vague and/or slightly inaccurate.
- Ideas may be limited, irrelevant, and/or poorly developed. Essay is minimally substantial and persuasive.
- Evidence is limited and/or sometimes vague, inaccurate, or inappropriate. The writer demonstrates a basic knowledge of the material.

No Credit

- **Thesis** is nonexistent or inaccurate.
- Essay contains little substance and/or avoids the prompt altogether.
- **Evidence** is minimal and/or frequently vague, inaccurate, or inappropriate. The writer demonstrates little knowledge of the material.

¹ In this context, the **thesis** is the writer's answer to the question, their 'stance' or 'position' on the topic –not to be confused with the **thesis statement**, which is, of course, a *statement* that sums up the *thesis*.

² For our purposes, an essay's **substance** is based on its ideas and how well those ideas are developed. A writer must make strategic decisions regarding how many ideas to present and how thoroughly to develop each one.