

HL ESSAY RUBRIC

	Criterion A: Knowledge, understanding and interpretation		Criterion B: Analysis and evaluation		Criterion C: Focus, organization, development (1200-1500 words)		Criterion D: Language
1	There is little knowledge and understanding of the work/text through the essay in relation to the chosen topic. References to the work/text are infrequent or are rarely appropriate in relation to the chosen topic.	1	The essay is descriptive and/or demonstrates little relevant analysis of textual features and/or the writer's broader choices in relation to the chosen topic.	1	Little organization present. No discernible line of inquiry is apparent in the essay. Supporting examples are not integrated into the structure of the sentences and paragraphs.	1	Language is rarely clear and appropriate; there are many errors in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction and little sense of register and style.
2	There is limited knowledge and understanding of the work/text through the essay in relation to the chosen topic. References to the work/text are at times appropriate in relation to the chosen topic	2	The essay contains some appropriate analysis of textual features and/or the writer's broader choices in relation to the chosen topic, but is reliant on description.	2	Some organization is apparent. There is little development of a line of inquiry. Supporting examples are rarely integrated into the structure of the sentences and paragraphs.	2	Language is sometimes clear and carefully chosen; grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction are fairly accurate, although errors and inconsistencies are apparent; the register and style are to some extent appropriate to the task.
3	There is satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the work/text through the essay and an interpretation of its implications in relation to the chosen topic. References to the work/ text are generally relevant and mostly support the candidate's ideas in relation to the chosen topic.	3	The essay demonstrates a generally appropriate analysis and evaluation of textual features and/or the writer's broader choices in relation to the chosen topic, with occasional insights.	3	The essay is adequately organized in a generally coherent manner. There is some development of the line of inquiry. Supporting examples are sometimes integrated into the structure of the sentences and paragraphs.	3	Language is clear and carefully chosen with an adequate degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction despite some lapses; register and style are mostly appropriate to the task.
4	There is good knowledge and understanding of the work/text through the essay and a sustained interpretation of its implications in relation to the chosen topic. References to the work/text are relevant and support the candidate's ideas in relation to the chosen topic.	4	The essay demonstrates an appropriate and at times insightful analysis and evaluation of textual features and/or the writer's broader choices in relation to the chosen topic.	4	The essay is well organized and mostly coherent. The line of inquiry is adequately developed. Supporting examples are mostly well integrated into the structure of the sentences and paragraphs.	4	Language is clear and carefully chosen, with a good degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction; register and style are consistently appropriate to the task.

5	There is excellent knowledge and understanding of the work/text through the essay and a persuasive interpretation of their implications in relation to the chosen topic. References to the work/text are well-chosen and effectively support the candidate's ideas in relation to the chosen topic. (MLA format for references) ** Thesis statements	5	The essay demonstrates an insightful and convincing analysis and evaluation of textual features (stylistic devices) and/or the writer's broader choices in relation to the chosen topic	5	The essay is effectively organized and coherent. The line of inquiry is well developed (student question). Supporting examples are well integrated into the structure of the sentences and paragraphs.	5	Language is very clear, effective, carefully chosen and precise, with a high degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction; register and style are effective and appropriate to the task.
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Total: /20 (*NOTE: 20 points on turnitin.com and 100 points in gradebook)

CRITERIA A key points to evaluate:

- Number of quotes per paragraph
- Do the quotes explicitly support the point being made?
- Do you make reference to the text as a whole? Do you mention the overall impact of the text?
- How are your explanations relevant to the question?
- Does every linking sentence clearly relate to the topic/line of inquiry?
- Are all examples clearly referenced?

CRITERIA B key points to evaluate:

- How well do you relate your points to the overall literary theory?
- In what ways have you explored literary devices? How clearly does each example highlight device choices?
- Have you identified specific devices within your topic sentences?
- Is your evaluation of the text choices explicitly linked to your overall topic/line of inquiry?

CRITERIA C key points to evaluate:

- Have you followed the correct introduction structure?
- Is your line of inquiry and thesis clearly identified within the introduction?
- Have you used keywords from your thesis within your linking sentences?
- Does each paragraph focus only on the point identified in the topic sentence?
- Does each point clearly relate to the line of inquiry?

CRITERIA D key points to evaluate:

- Have you avoided colloquial, slang, or casual language?
- How often have you repeated words?
- Is the language used clearly showing an evaluation is occurring?
- Have you completed careful proofreading to check for spelling and grammatical errors?