

Sonnet Essay: The Rubric

Criteria	Missing 0-1 (0-59)	Attempt 2 (60-69)	Partial 3 (70-79)	Reasonable 4 (80-89)	Persuasive 5-6 (90-99)
Structure: The thesis offers a clear, specific, provable and analytical assertion. The topic sentences build logically upon the thesis, and each body paragraph builds logically upon the one before it. The essay takes a stance but addresses the sonnet's complexity and contradictions. The introduction is focused and builds up to the thesis while the conclusion reveals what the writer learned about the sonnet through the process of writing.					
Evidence: The essay is grounded in specific quotations from the sonnet (at least 2-3 per body paragraph). The writer embeds each quotation smoothly and leads out of each quotation with literary language, performing close readings of multiple literary elements and techniques. The writer uses these close readings to support and add complexity to the thesis and topic sentences.					
Style: The writer uses powerful, accurate word choices to improve clarity and capture complexity. The writer also avoids repetition, "fluffy" adverbs (such as "very" and "really"), and empty statements. The writer uses a variety of sentence lengths and structures.					
Professionalism: The essay has an MLA heading (including an original title) and proper MLA citations. Quotations are copied carefully to maintain the poet's grammatical choices, and slashes are used to indicate line breaks. The essay has been carefully proofread.					

Holistic Score: _____ = _____ / 100