**Essay Rubric**

An A paper will:

* Take a stand on the issue, one way or another, in a forceful manner, and include an interesting and compelling thesis that is supported throughout the paper.
* Answer the prompt and display and original and insightful take on the topic.
* Effectively argue the point with organized, coherent, and well supported logic and compelling examples.
* Contain effective topic sentences that support the thesis and describe what point the following sentence will make
* Be written eloquently, with little to no awkward, rambling, or otherwise stylistically problematic sentences.
* Contain no grammatical errors.

A B paper will:

* Take a stand on the issue, one way or another, and include a well articulated thesis that is supported throughout the paper.
* Answer the prompt and display a well thought out take on the topic.
* Argue the point in an organized and logical manner, and be backed up with sufficient examples and evidence.
* Contain topic sentences that support the thesis and describe what point the following sentence will make
* Use various patterns of development well.
* Contain few awkward, rambling, or otherwise stylistically problematic sentences.
* Contain few grammatical errors.

A C paper will:

* Include a clear thesis and the paper may wander from the topic.
* Misunderstand the prompt, but still make an effective argument.
* Argue the point logically, backed up with some evidence.
* Contain topic sentences that support the thesis and/or describe what point the following sentence will make
* Contain a number of awkward, rambling, or otherwise stylistically problematic sentences.
* Contain a number of grammatical errors.

A D paper will:

* Lack a thesis, or contain an unclear thesis that is not well supported in the paper.
* Not answer the prompt.
* Argue the point insufficiently, backed up with little to no evidence.
* Display little coherence and organization.
* Contain a distracting number of stylistic problems.
* Contain a distracting number of grammatical errors.

An F paper will:

* Be, like, real bad.