

Expository Essay – Parent Rubric

Parents: Please review your student's graded outlines and verify that all noted corrections have been made. Then, together with your student, continue revising by using this rubric as a guide. When finished, score the items in the left column and sign and date this form.

ITEMS GRADED BY PARENT

Each checkbox in the left column is worth ½ point. Together, you may continue making revisions until full points are earned.

Before you begin, please verify that the Introduction and Conclusion each contain a minimum of 4 complete sentences. Body Paragraphs must have a minimum of 6 complete sentences or 5 sentences plus 1 quote.

MLA Formatting

- 1 inch margins on all sides.
- Double-spaced. No extra space between paragraphs. (i.e. set paragraph spacing to 0 before and after)
- Times New Roman 12-pt font. (including header)
- The header includes the student's last name, a space, and the page number in the upper right corner of every page (including Works Cited), ½ inch from the top.
- On the first page, aligned left:
 - 1st Line: Student's First and Last Name
 - 2nd Line: Tutor's Name (spelled correctly)
 - 3rd Line: Course Name
 - 4th Line: Date formatted like: 15 August 2023
- The essay title is centered and properly capitalized on the 5th line. (*not bold, not italics, not underlined*)
- The introduction begins on the 6th line.
- The first line of each paragraph is indented ½ inch.

Works Cited & In-Text Citations

- On its own page, the very next page after the conclusion, with "Works Cited" centered at the top.
- The page includes the header and is double-spaced.
- Entries are in alphabetical order.
- Entries are aligned left with a ½ inch "hanging indent" (i.e., if an entry wraps to a 2nd line, the 2nd line is indented ½-in)
- All quoted and paraphrased evidence (intellectual property) has a properly formatted and punctuated parenthetical in-text citation.
Examples: "This is the quote" (Dickens 33).
Dickens wrote, "This is the quote" (33).
This is the paraphrase (Smith).

Word Choice & Sentence Structure

- Limit of 2 "be" verbs per paragraph. (please count)
- No contractions. (except within quoted evidence)
- 3rd person voice ONLY (*he, she, it, they*)

Parent Points: _____ / 8

ITEMS TO BE GRADED BY TUTOR

Use this list as a guide to help with paragraph revisions but do not tally the items in this column.

- Creative Title: hints at essay's topic

Introduction

- Hook: grabs attention; hints; does not reveal the full topic.
- Narrowing sentences: provide background and lead the reader from the hook to the thesis.
- Thesis statement: the last sentence; clear topic; 3 prongs.
- The book title (in italics) and author's full name are included at least once in the introduction. *Note: Use the author's full name the first time; use his last name only after that.

1st Body Paragraph

- Topic sentence: broad, directly relates to 1st thesis prong.
- Supporting Details/Evidence
- Transition
- Supporting Details/Evidence
- Concluding sentence: wraps up the topic; not repetitive
- All details must relate to the topic
- Paragraph must include one direct quote.

2nd Body Paragraph

- Follow the same structure as above for 2nd thesis prong.

3rd Body Paragraph

- Follow the same structure as above for 3rd thesis prong.

Bridge Transitions

- Use words/phrases to transition between the 1st & 2nd body paragraph and again between the 2nd & 3rd.
- Included in either the last sentence of one paragraph or the first sentence of the next paragraph.

Conclusion

- Restated thesis: the first sentence; say it in a new way that is not repetitive; multiple changes made such as reorder the prongs, use synonyms, different sentence structure, new sentence opener, shorter/longer, show vs. tell, etc.
- Broadening sentences: remind reader of strongest points and/or suggest an application; no new evidence; do NOT repeat the thesis prongs!
- Clincher: the final sentence; both reminds the reader of the opening hook and wraps up the entire essay

Other

- Communication: clear, concise, not awkward or repetitive
- Proper grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling.
- At least 3 different sentence openers per paragraph.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____