

Research Writing Grading Rubric

A EXCELLENT-- A paper in this category

- Addresses the assignment thoughtfully and originally.
- Displays awareness of and purpose in communicating to an audience.
- Demonstrates coherent and sophisticated organization; makes effective connections between ideas.
- Provides excellent support for assertions with specific detail and analysis.
- Cites relevant sources and evaluates their validity, effectively integrating them into the text.
- Engages with and responds to sources without merely presenting a “collage” of sources.
- Displays superior, consistent control of syntax, sentence variety, word choice, etc. appropriate for audience and purpose.

B STRONG-- A paper in this category

- Addresses the assignment thoughtfully.
- Addresses audience needs and expectations.
- Demonstrates clear and coherent organization.
- Provides effective support for assertions with specific detail and analysis.
- Cites relevant sources, effectively integrating them into text when appropriate.
- Engages with and responds to sources without merely presenting a “collage” of sources.
- Displays consistent control of syntax, sentence variety, word choice, etc. appropriate for audience and purpose.

C ADEQUATE-- A paper in this category

- Addresses the assignment.
- Addresses most audience needs and expectations.
- Demonstrates adequate organization.
- Provides adequate support for assertions with some specific detail and analysis.
- Cites appropriate sources, adequately integrating them into text.
- Responds to sources without merely presenting a “collage” of sources.
- Displays adequate control of syntax, sentence variety, word choice, etc. appropriate for audience and purpose.

D SERIOUSLY FLAWED-- A paper in this category

- Addresses the assignment inadequately.
- Shows insufficient audience awareness.
- Displays formulaic or confusing organization.

- Provides generalizations with inadequate support or analysis.
- Fails to cite sources or cites and/or integrates them inappropriately.
- Presents a “collage” of sources rather than engaging with and responding to sources.
- Syntax, sentence variety, word choice, etc. impede the audience’s understanding.

F FUNDAMENTALLY DEFICIENT--A paper in this category

- Fails to address assignment.
- Demonstrates a lack of audience awareness.
- Lacks organization.
- Displays inability to generalize, analyze, or support ideas.
- Fails to use outside sources or misuses the texts of others.
- Presents a “collage” of sources rather than engaging with and responding to sources.
- Syntax, sentence variety, word choice, etc. seriously impede the audience’s understanding.