

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

TUTORIAL
Kent McClelland

CONTENT

Points

Comments

Argument:

/4

Does the paper have a main point? Is there a clear and logical progression of ideas expanding on that main point?

Evidence:

/4

Is the argument supported by an adequate number of concrete facts and vivid details? Are points well enough developed to be convincing?

Total for Content:

EFFECTIVENESS

Opening and Conclusion:

/1

Does the introduction draw the reader's attention to the main point of the paper? Does the conclusion leave the reader satisfied while providing something to think about?

Paragraphs:

/1

Are paragraphs unified, well organized, and coherent?

Sentence Structure:

/1

Do sentences effectively use coordination, subordination, and parallelism to make the meaning clear?

Emphasis and Variety:

/1

Do sentences vary in structure and rhythm in order to focus the reader's attention on important ideas?

Vitality:

/1

Has the writer combined concrete nouns and modifiers with active verbs to create a sense of immediacy and energy?

Conciseness:

/1

Is the writing concise and direct?

Word Choice:

/1

Are words chosen wisely to convey precise shades of meaning? Are idioms used correctly? Has the writer avoided slang, jargon, mixed metaphors, and clichés?

Biased Language:

/1

Has the writer avoided stereotypes, demeaning labels, and sexist language?

Total for Effectiveness:

GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION

Grammar:

/2

Is the paper free of grammatical errors?

Punctuation:

/2

Is the paper free of errors in punctuation?

Total for Grammar and Punctuation:

MECHANICS

Spelling and Proofreading:

/2

Are all words spelled correctly? Does the paper follow conventions in the use of capital letters, hyphens, italics, numbers, and abbreviation?

Following the Assignment:

/2

Does the paper stay within word limits? Is the format of the paper correct, with font, margins, and title as specified? Have citations and references been handled correctly? Has the writer given credit for help received?

Total for Mechanics:

Total for paper: