

Nonfiction Essay Rubric

Focus	Exemplary	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Developing
Introduction Sentence	<input type="checkbox"/> includes all required elements	<input type="checkbox"/> missing one required element	<input type="checkbox"/> missing 2 or more required elements	<input type="checkbox"/> intro sentence is missing
Thesis	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent thesis; clearly answers prompt	<input type="checkbox"/> Good thesis; answers prompt	<input type="checkbox"/> Thesis partially answers the prompt	<input type="checkbox"/> Thesis is missing
Body Paragraphs	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear topic sentences that vary in structure from paragraph to paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> Clear transitions in the topic sentences and within the paragraphs <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent, relevant examples (3 direct quotes) <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent analyses <input type="checkbox"/> Clear, well-written closing sentences	<input type="checkbox"/> Mostly clear topic sentences that have some variety in structure <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly clear transitions in the topic sentences and within the paragraphs <input type="checkbox"/> Good examples (3 direct quotes) <input type="checkbox"/> Good analyses <input type="checkbox"/> Good closing sentences	<input type="checkbox"/> Topic sentences are unclear; little variety in structure from paragraph to paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> Few transitions in the topic sentences and within the paragraphs <input type="checkbox"/> Some examples are missing; not all are relevant; direct quotes are not always used <input type="checkbox"/> Analyses are incomplete; 1-2 may be missing <input type="checkbox"/> Closing sentences are unclear; one is missing	<input type="checkbox"/> Unclear/no topic sentences; no variety in structure from paragraph to paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> No transitions in the topic sentences and within the paragraphs <input type="checkbox"/> Few/ no examples; no direct quotes are used <input type="checkbox"/> 3 or more analyses are missing <input type="checkbox"/> Closing sentences are missing
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Well-written restated thesis	<input type="checkbox"/> Good restated thesis; some similarities to original thesis	<input type="checkbox"/> Restated thesis repeats original thesis	<input type="checkbox"/> Restated thesis is missing
Writing Style	<input type="checkbox"/> Variety and richness of word choice <input type="checkbox"/> Little to no errors in formal language	<input type="checkbox"/> Good word choice <input type="checkbox"/> Few errors in formal language	<input type="checkbox"/> Basic word choice <input type="checkbox"/> Several errors in formal language	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple word choice <input type="checkbox"/> Many errors in formal language
Spelling and Grammar	<input type="checkbox"/> Barely any/no mistakes in spelling and grammar (proper nouns, complete sentences)	<input type="checkbox"/> A few mistakes that do not affect the overall understanding of the essay	<input type="checkbox"/> Several mistakes that at times affect the overall understanding of the essay	<input type="checkbox"/> Many errors that affect the overall understanding of the essay
Formatting and Directions	<input type="checkbox"/> Correct spacing, font, paragraph structure <input type="checkbox"/> Followed all directions	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 errors in spacing, font, structure, directions	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-4 errors in spacing, font, structure, and/or directions	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 4 errors in font, spacing, structure and/or directions

Name: _____ Period: _____ Overall Grade: _____ / 100