

Scholarship Essay Rubric

Criteria	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Average (3)	Below Average (2)	Poor (1)
<i>Content & Relevance</i>	Demonstrates exceptional insight, relevance, and originality. Clearly Addresses the prompt, providing a compelling and well-supported argument.	Provides a solid response to the essay prompt with relevant content. Ideas are well-developed and logically organized.	Addressed the essay prompt adequately, but the response may lack depth or originality.	Content is somewhat relevant to the essay prompt but lacks clarity or coherence.	Fails to address the essay prompt effectively. Content is unclear, irrelevant, or disorganized.
<i>Thesis & Focus</i>	Presents a clear and well-defined thesis statement that guides the entire essay. Maintains a strong focus on the main idea throughout the essay.	Establishes a clear thesis that guides the essay. Maintains focus on the main idea, with minimal deviations.	Presents a thesis, but it may lack clarity or specificity. Some sections lack focus on the main idea.	The thesis is weak or unclear, and the essay may lack a central focus. Some sections deviate from the main idea.	Lacks a clear thesis, and the essay lacks focus and coherence. No central idea is evident.
<i>Organization</i>	Demonstrates a well-structured essay with a logical flow of ideas. Paragraphs are effectively organized, and transitions enhance coherence.	Exhibits good organization with a logical progression of ideas. Paragraphs are generally well-structured, and transitions are present.	Shows some organizational structure, but the flow of ideas may be uneven. Transitions are present but may need improvement.	Organization is weak, with unclear transitions between ideas. Some sections may lack coherence.	Lacks organizational structure. Ideas are disjointed, and transitions are absent or ineffective
<i>Clarity & Expression</i>	Expresses ideas with exceptional clarity, using precise language. Sentence structure is varied, and there are no major grammar or spelling errors.	Communicates ideas clearly with effective use of language. Sentence structure is varied, and there are minimal grammar or spelling errors.	Conveys ideas adequately, but language may lack precision. Sentence structure is generally clear, with occasional errors.	Expression is somewhat unclear, with noticeable grammar or spelling errors. Sentence structure may be monotonous.	Communication is unclear. Numerous grammar and spelling errors hinder understanding. Sentence structure lacks variety.
<i>Depth of Analysis</i>	Provides a thorough and insightful analysis of the topic. Supports arguments with well-chosen examples and evidence.	Offers a solid analysis of the topic, providing relevant examples and evidence. Demonstrates a good understanding of the subject matter.	Provides a basic analysis of the topic but lacks depth or sophistication. Examples and evidence may be limited.	Analysis is superficial, and examples/evidence may not effectively support the arguments.	Lacks meaningful analysis. Examples and evidence are absent or irrelevant.
<i>Conclusion</i>	Concludes the essay effectively, summarizing key points and reinforcing the thesis.	Concludes the essay satisfactorily, summarizing key points and reinforcing the thesis.	The conclusion is present but may lack clarity or impact.	The conclusion is weak or abrupt, and key points may not be effectively summarized.	The conclusion is missing or significantly flawed.