The Five Elements of Strong Academic Writing

A Rubric for Grading Student Writing

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Format**
 | 1. **Information**
 | 1. **Organization**
 | 1. **Research/Citation**
 | 1. **Grammar**
 |
| The paper should be formatted correctly in regards to header, margins, spacing, etc. | The content of your paper should address the specific question(s) or topic of the essay | The information in the essay should be logically organized from beginning to end | If research is required it should come from credible sources and be cited correctly | Proper grammar, spelling and punctuation should be used throughout the essay |
| The paper may need to follow a specific format such as MLA or APA | The essay should stay focused on the question(s) or topic assigned | The essay should incorporate an introduction, organized body paragraphs, and a conclusion  | Whether directly quoting or paraphrasing, the research source needs to be cited within the sentence and on the Works Cited or References page | Sentences should be full, clear, and logical |
| Format should be followed whether essay is printed out or sent electronically | Supporting information should come from readings, class notes, lectures, personal analysis, etc.  | The essay should incorporate transition words/phrases throughout | The citation should occur in a specific style: MLA, APA, Chicago, CSE, or another that the professor requires | Use of proper vocabulary and tone throughout |
| **Percentage/ Points worth:** | **Percentage/Points worth:** | **Percentage/Points worth:** | **Percentage/Points worth:** | **Percentage/Points worth:** |
| **Percentage or Points received:** | **Percentage or Points received:** | **Percentage or Points received:** | **Percentage or Points received:** | **Percentage or Points received:** |

**Final Grade:**

**Further comments and feedback:**

**General information on MLA, APA, citation, and research: www.blueletters.com 🡪 Writing Resources**

**Information on MLA, APA, citation, research, and writing: *How to Write Anything* and *Everybody Writes***