

Grading Rubric¹

An “A” Paper-- “*Wow!*”

- Responds effectively and intelligently to the prompt
- Makes an argument that is insightful, sophisticated, original, and takes a risk
- Includes abundant evidence and in-depth analysis that effectively “proves” the thesis
- Does not make generalizations or assumptions and is always concrete and explicit
- Is not awkward or repetitive in language, phrasing, or sentence construction
- Employs appropriate tone and demonstrates a distinctive voice

A “B” Paper-- “*Yeah!*”

- Responds competently to the prompt
- Makes an argument that is clear and coherent, but maybe a little broad, simplistic, or wordy
- Includes good evidence and some analysis, but they could be developed further
- Occasionally makes wide-sweeping generalizations and assumptions
- Is mostly well organized, and most ideas are focused and developed
- Contains a few instances of awkward or repetitive language
- Uses generally appropriate tone and employs vocabulary precisely if not creatively

A “C” Paper-- “*Okay...*”

- Responds adequately to the prompt
- Makes an argument that is obvious, superficial, and/or unclear
- Includes some evidence but very little in-depth analysis
- Includes too much summary and/or relies on ideas from class without expanding on them
- Makes generalizations and assumptions
- Has weak overall structure, paragraph organization, and development of ideas
- Contains some awkward, repetitive language and sentence construction
- Uses generally appropriate tone but often employs vocabulary imprecisely

A “D” Paper-- “*Uh-oh*”

- Does not fully respond to the prompt or otherwise fulfill all the requirements of the assignment
- Lacks a coherent argument
- Includes little to no evidence and in-depth analysis
- Relies entirely on summary and expresses ideas that are incoherent and/or irrelevant
- Lacks clear overall structure, paragraph organization, and development of ideas
- Misuses words and/or contains numerous instances of awkward, repetitive language and sentence construction

An “F” paper-- “*H*ll to the nah!*”

- Isn't turned in OR completely ignores the requirements of the assignment OR violates academic integrity policies

¹ This rubric was created by Professor Caroline Kyungah Hong, English Dept, Queens College, CUNY