

## College Application Essay Rubric

	<b>Exceptional</b>	<b>Competent</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Weak</b>	<b>Unacceptable</b>
	<b>10</b>	<b>9-8</b>	<b>7-6.5</b>	<b>6-5</b>	<b>5 and below</b>
<b>Development of Imagery &amp; Literary Devices</b>  _____ X 3  _____ / 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Frequently uses flashback, foreshadowing, internal monologue, reflection and effectively and appropriately</li> <li>-Effectively uses imagery to convey mood</li> <li>-High level of detail appropriate to the scene. Completely understands “show, don’t tell.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Uses flashbacks, foreshadowing, internal monologue, and reflection effectively, but the execution may not be masterful.</li> <li>-Incorporates imagery well.</li> <li>-Frequently uses meaningful details. A few scenes are vague. Mostly understands “show, don’t tell.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Attempts to use flashback, foreshadowing, internal monologue, or reflection.</li> <li>-Many scenes are difficult to visualize, but occasionally uses imagery.</li> <li>-Memoir uses some details, but needs more. Details may be random. Often tells instead of showing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Uses flashback, foreshadowing, internal monologue, or reflection incorrectly.</li> <li>-Hardly uses any imagery.</li> <li>-Uses very few specific details.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No use of literary techniques.</li> <li>-No imagery</li> <li>The author summarizes events instead of describing them.</li> </ul>
<b>Organization</b>  _____ X 2  _____ /20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Tells a clear, meaningful story.</li> <li>-Title reveals deep understanding of focus</li> <li>-Author adeptly uses opening and closing techniques</li> <li>-Sections are logically organized and flow smoothly with internal and external transitions.</li> <li>-Strong pacing. The story does not drag. Concise. No unneeded sentences or fluff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Tells a story that primarily focuses on one element of life.</li> <li>-Title relates to focus in a thoughtful way.</li> <li>-Author attempts to use some of the opening and closing techniques.</li> <li>-Sections are organized and generally flow though a few transitions may be abrupt.</li> <li>-Usually concise. Occasionally takes too long to tell. Some unneeded sentences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Story is a bit unclear as scenes are only a little related. Numerous paragraphs or sections may not fit.</li> <li>-Title is vague or cliché.</li> <li>-Author attempts to use one of the opening and closing techniques.</li> <li>-Generally organized logically, with some exceptions.</li> <li>-Takes too long to tell without adding anything new.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Scenes are random and unrelated.</li> <li>-Title is too vague or cliché.</li> <li>-Author does not appear to use any opening or closing strategies.</li> <li>-Seemingly random order.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Unclear focus</li> <li>-No title OR title is too vague</li> <li>-Scenes have not been revised at all</li> <li>-The paper does not appear to be finished.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Originality and Depth</b></p> <p>_____ X 3</p> <p>_____ / 30</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Interesting read.</li> <li>-Emotionally or intellectually revealing; teaches life lessons to all readers.</li> <li>-Consistent, unique authorial voice that creates tone appropriate to the topic.</li> <li>-Level of reflection goes beyond expectations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Interesting read.</li> <li>-Some intellectual or emotional risks.</li> <li>-Authorial voices is distinctive.</li> <li>-Level of reflection meets expectations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Relies on clichés or generalities.</li> <li>-Author seems to shield his/her identity.</li> <li>-Authorial voices is developing (may come and go).</li> <li>-Shorter or more simplistic than expected, but still a strong piece of writing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Very little revelation of identity.</li> <li>- Author is not identifiable by his/her voice.</li> <li>-Extremely brief.</li> <li>-Story drags.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No revelation of identity.</li> <li>-No voice or tone to identify author.</li> <li>-Only once scene, which is unfinished.</li> <li>-No clear storyline, therefore, no pacing.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mechanics</b></p> <p>_____ X 2</p> <p>_____ / 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Perfect MLA formatting</li> <li>-Grammatically flawless, except for a few typos</li> <li>-Dialogue always punctuated correctly</li> <li>-Outstanding use of strong verbs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-One or two formatting errors.</li> <li>-Some grammatical flaws</li> <li>-Dialogue mostly punctuated correctly.</li> <li>-Missed a few opportunities to use strong verbs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Three or more formatting errors.</li> <li>-Many grammatical flaws.</li> <li>-Dialogue sometimes punctuated correctly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Numerous formatting errors.</li> <li>-Some thoughts are difficult to understand because of mechanic errors.</li> <li>-Dialogue punctuation rules not consistently followed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Incorrect formatting.</li> <li>-Little to no attention to mechanics even after receiving corrections from classmates and the teacher.</li> <li>-Dialogue punctuation is incorrect.</li> <li>-No clear storyline, therefore no pacing.</li> </ul>

Late Points Deduction: -\_\_\_\_\_ points (\*Essays that are late will receive a deduction of 10 points a day. )

**Total Score:** \_\_\_\_\_/100

**Comments on the overall paper:**