

FTCC ENGLISH DEPARTMENT: WRITING RUBRIC

Please note: Any student who intentionally plagiarizes a paper will automatically receive a zero on the assignment.

*Instructors will not grade any research paper submitted without documentation (including in-text citations **and** a Works Cited page).*

For an academic essay, the writer should:

OBJECTIVE 1: ORGANIZATION AND FOCUS (30%)

- 1A. Establish a clear and specific thesis in the introduction to guide the paper. (10/10*)
- 1B. Develop clear and specific topic sentences for each body paragraph that connect to the thesis. (5/5*)
- 1C. Maintain a logical organizational flow for the body paragraphs with transitional phrases to show relation of ideas. (5/5*)
- 1D. Construct an effective introduction and conclusion to unify the focus and significance of the paper. (10/10*)

Comments:

Be sure always to include an intro and conclusion that provide a frame for the discussion: Audience? Purpose? Thesis?

Get the audience's attention by providing the author, title, and genre of the work. Briefly discuss the work's theme, and then transition to your choice of literary element to examine to explore the theme.

The thesis should list the specific examples of the literary element you plan to discuss: How does each example help illustrate the theme of the work?

Topic sentences in the body paragraph should correspond to the thesis list.

OBJECTIVE 1 SCORE: 30/30

Advanced (30-29); Satisfactory (28-26); Acceptable (25-23); Minimal (22-21); Unacceptable (20-0)

OBJECTIVE 2: DEVELOPMENT (40%)

**Students who do not reach minimum requirements with length and sources will not receive credit in this area.*

- 2A. Select credible, academic source material to support paper claims effectively. (5/5*)
- 2B. Choose specific and detailed examples to illustrate the main ideas of the paper. (10/10*)
- 2C. Elaborate on major assertions with factual, logical, and appropriate support. (10/10*)
- 2D. Make clear connections between the supporting material and the main ideas for the audience. (10/10*)
- 2E. Anticipate audience reaction to topics and respond with clarifying support. (5/5*)

Comments:

Be sure to meet the word-count minimum: 1,000-1,500 words, not including the Works Cited page.

Use MLA in-text references for support, including paraphrasing and brief quotations.

Remember: 3-5 scholarly journal articles needed for support.

Avoid citing whole sentences out of contexts: Prefer paraphrasing and quoting only key words and phrases. Always provide page numbers when citing.

OBJECTIVE 2 SCORE: 40/40

Advanced (40-37); Satisfactory (36-34); Acceptable (33-31); Minimal (30-28); Unacceptable (27-0)

OBJECTIVE 3: GRAMMAR AND MECHANICS (15%)

- 3A. Select appropriate diction (word choice) to match standard conventions. (5/5*)
- 3B. Employ standard sentence structure by avoiding run-on sentences and sentence fragments. (5/5*)
- 3C. Apply conventions of Standard Written English, to include punctuation, subject-verb agreement, and spelling. (5/5*)

Comments:

For grammar and mechanics resource, see: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/5/>

See our Cengage text.

Also use Google search for Interactive Grammar Exercises in your particular area of need.

Contact the Writing Center, Room 232 Virtual Campus Center, for assistance.

Contact NetTutor for tutoring online: See Student Support link in our course.

OBJECTIVE 3 SCORE: 15/15

Advanced (15-14); Satisfactory (13); Acceptable (12); Minimal (11); Unacceptable (10-0)

OBJECTIVE 4: SOURCES AND DOCUMENTATION (15%)

- 4A. Present the paper and Works Cited page in standard MLA format. (5/5*)
- 4B. Integrate quoted material with smooth, effective control. (5/5*)
- 4C. Paraphrase, quote, and cite material with correct formatting and in-text citations. (5/5*)

Comments:

For resource on 8th edition of MLA format, see: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

See also the 8th edition MLA resources from your Cengage text and what I've provided in our course Announcements.

Here is the model you should follow for citing your short story from our Resources folder:

Baldwin, James. "Sonny's Blues." https://faytechcc.blackboard.com/bbcswebdav/pid-8815221-dt-content-rid-31465814_1/courses/2017SP.ENG.112.0901/Sonny%27s%20Blues.pdf. Accessed 13 Feb. 2017.

Follow the MLA Works Cited entry models for an article from a database:

Langhamer, Claire. "Love and Courtship in Mid-Twentieth-Century England." *Historical Journal*, vol. 50, no. 1, 2007, pp. 173-96. *ProQuest*, doi:10.1017/S0018246X06005966.

Lorensen, Jutta. "Between Image and Word, Color, and Time: Jacob Lawrence's The Migration Series." *African American Review*, vol. 40, no. 3, 2006, pp. 571-86. *EBSCOHost*, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=f5h&AN=24093790&site=ehost-live

OBJECTIVE 4 SCORE: 15/15

Advanced (15-14); Satisfactory (13); Acceptable (12); Minimal (**11**); Unacceptable (10-0)

*Points Available