

## EVALUATING RUBRIC for 2019 BANNED BOOKS ESSAY CONTEST

	<b>NONE (0)</b>	<b>NEEDS WORK (1)</b>	<b>ADEQUATE (2)</b>	<b>GOOD (3)</b>	<b>EXCELLENT (4)</b>
<b>STRENGTH of ARGUMENT</b> <i>Does the entire essay focus on one central argument (thesis)?</i>	No attempt to provide a thesis.	There appears to be a thesis, but the paper appears to be a collection of facts and information. May also read mostly like a plot summary	The essay thesis may not be very clear; it may be difficult to determine the direction of paper at times.	The essay is largely focused on the central argument of the paper, but the effects of the reasons, details and evidence may not be as compelling because the thesis statement may be broad.	A tight and compelling central idea in which all the reasons, details, and evidence clearly support the central thesis of the paper throughout.
<b>ADHERENCE TO PROMPT</b> <i>Does the essay stick to the general idea of the prompt? Does the essay answer the central question?</i>	No adherence to the essay prompt.	There appears to be some attempt at sticking to the prompt question. However the paper loses sight of the overall goal of the essay.	The essay mostly sticks to the prompt. It may deviate in places but does attempt to answer the prompt.	The essay clearly answers the prompt question. It relates to the topic and theme that is being asked of the paper	The essay answers the prompt clearly and concisely. It may also take the idea in an interesting and/or unexpected direction.
<b>SUPPORTING DETAILS</b> <i>Are the supporting details logically consistent? Does the evidence provided support this well? Are they credible?</i>	No attempt to support the central idea in the essay.	The supporting details may support the thesis, but there may be a serious lack of supporting evidence to strengthen the argument of the essay. The paper may have a tendency to ramble / go off topic, or to generalize without supporting sources.	The supporting details do a fair job to support the thesis, but they may appear to point to the obvious or the predictable. Also, there may be an overt reliance on popular resources, such as Internet web sites.	The supporting details do a great job overall to support the thesis, but one of the key points may be underdeveloped. Inclusion of scholarly resources in addition to popular sources.	Details strongly support the central thesis of the essay. The evidence strengthens the argument of the essay. Sources are mostly credible scholarly sources with some popular sources as well.
<b>ORGANIZATION</b> <i>Are the paragraphs clearly structured and do they flow well? (Intro, body, conclusion, transitions, etc.)?</i>	No clear attempt at organization.	There doesn't appear to be a cohesive paragraph structure. The essay may appear to be one long paragraph. Some key paragraph structures, like the concluding paragraph, may be missing.	The essay may have a structure, but some paragraphs may appear excessively long and/or underdeveloped. Some paragraphs may not have a clear purpose and/or transitions.	The essay has a clear structure, but there may be one area that could have been more developed. (e.g. the concluding paragraph reads like it was hastily put together, etc.)	Each paragraph has a clear purpose. They clearly and logically transition from one to the next. Signal words may be apparent throughout. An introduction, body paragraphs and conclusion are clear.
<b>LANGUAGE MECHANICS</b> <i>Are the paragraphs largely free of errors related to grammar, syntax, punctuation, and spelling?</i>	No command of language mechanics.	Either the writer neglected to proofread their essay carefully, or they have a poor command of language mechanics as there are many errors throughout.	Adequate command of grammar, spelling, punctuation and syntax; however, the paper could be much better with more careful proofreading.	Overall good command of grammar, spelling, punctuation and syntax. One or two errors on average found per paragraph.	Excellent command of grammar, spelling, punctuation and syntax. No more than two "typo" errors found.

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<p><b>FORMAT**</b> <i>Is the essay largely free of formatting errors (fonts, margins, line spacing, etc.) and do they utilize the MLA ** format well?</i></p>	<p>No attempt to use any acceptable format.</p>	<p>There appears to be some formatting, but neglect with respect to MLA **; margins, fonts, and indenting among other things are very apparent.</p>	<p>Good format. Adequate use of MLA ** format. Some major errors are apparent, especially with citation and works cited page.</p>	<p>Good use of format overall, with some minor apparent difficulties with MLA **.</p>	<p>Perfect paper format and near perfect use of MLA ** format, which include consistent citations and an excellent Works Cited page.</p>
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\*\* Other documentation formats, such as APA, Turabian, Chicago, Harvard, etc. are acceptable provided that the writer is correct and consistent with the requirements of their chosen documentation style.