

# Assessment Rubric for Academic Writing

Use this rubric for the following types of writing: **Process Analysis** Essay, **Comparison and/or Contrast** Essay, **Cause/Effect** Essay, and **Definition** Essay



## Stimulating Ideas

*The writing . . .*

- \_\_\_ focuses on an important subject (a process, a problem, a term to define) that meets the requirements of the assignment.
- \_\_\_ presents a clearly expressed thesis statement.
- \_\_\_ thoroughly informs readers.

## Logical Organization

- \_\_\_ includes an interesting beginning, strong development, and an effective ending.
- \_\_\_ arranges ideas in a logical way.
- \_\_\_ uses transitions to link sentences and paragraphs.

## Engaging Voice

- \_\_\_ speaks knowledgeably.
- \_\_\_ shows that the writer is truly interested in the subject

### **Original Word Choice**

\_\_\_\_ explains or defines any unfamiliar terms.

\_\_\_\_ contains specific nouns and vivid verbs.

### **Effective Sentence Style**

\_\_\_\_ flows smoothly from one idea to the next.

\_\_\_\_ shows variation in sentence structure.

### **Correct, Accurate Copy**

\_\_\_\_ adheres to the basic rules of writing

\_\_\_\_ follows the appropriate formatting requirements for the assignment.

\_\_\_\_ uses MLA for in-text citations and a Works Cited page if needed.