

Advanced Writing Project Rubrics

About town (expository and/or descriptive essay)

	1	2	3	4
Cohesion Conciseness Clarity (3 C's)	Sentences and paragraphs are put together haphazardly. Little or no use of transition devices. Elements seem to have been put together by random resulting in lack of meaning.	Some serious problems with cohesion resulting in frustration for the reader and/or a need to reread the piece. Writing is communicative, but cohesion issues result in choppy reading.	Some minor problems with cohesion, but they generally do not result in interference. Overall, the paragraph structure and the relationships between sentences and paragraphs is clear, but minor stylistic issues exist.	Easy to understand. Few if any unnecessary words. Sentences and paragraphs flow easily. Excellent use of transition devices such as conjunctions and logical connectors.
Explanation, description, and detail (EDD)	Almost complete lack of supporting details leaves the reader unclear on what the writer is describing. Facts lack explanation and framing.	Some detail and description, but large gaps leave the reader feeling unclear on important points in the essay.	Fairly good EDD, but some holes remain leaving the reader feeling that the essay could be better with a little more explanation.	Excellent use of EDD. The reader gets a clear picture and understanding of what the writer wants to convey.
Grammar Vocabulary Syntax	Numerous local and global errors resulting in profound confusion of meaning. Many improper uses of vocabulary. Very poor syntax.	Maybe a few global errors but there are numerous local errors resulting in difficult reading. Some improper uses of vocabulary. Rough syntax.	No global errors but a few local errors. Very few if any mistakes in vocabulary. Reasonably good syntax does not interfere with reading.	No global errors and very few if any local errors. Excellent use of vocabulary enhances meaning. Nearly standard syntax allows for smooth reading.