

# Holistic Rubric

## Based on AP Language and Comp Test

**9:** Like an 8 but better stylistically

**8: Effective:** They nail it. Sophistication and nuance are evident in knowledge of content and application of skills.

**7:** Like a “6” but better stylistically

**6: Adequate:** Basically a “3” in a four point scale. Everything is there and all skills are demonstrated with some expertise.

**5: Inconsistent:** Some good, some not so much. Might demonstrate knowledge/skills at an adequate level, but not consistently.

**4: Inadequate:** Some significant errors or shortcomings in knowledge and/or skill impact the writing.

**3:** Like a “4” but less insight, organization, mastery of skills than a 4. They seem overwhelmed by the complexity of the task or don’t give it much effort.

**2:** No clue what they are doing although they attempt it

**1:** No real attempt made

9=A

8=Lower A

7=B+/A-

6=B

5=B-

4=C/C+

3=C-/D+

2=D

1=F

NOTE: Probably 75% of essays I read fall in the 4-6 range. Probably true for all of us. This might give you a way to calibrate if you haven’t used this style of rubric before.

NOTE: As always with a timed write, grade it as a first draft, not as a polished final draft. Don’t be overly concerned especially with grammatical and usage errors in particular.

NOTE: A paper can score a very high mark even if it has errors in it—remember, it is a draft.

NOTE: Remember to give the writer credit for what they do well—look for the good stuff.