FEE RUBRIC

6—A six paper shows superior reasoning and writing. A six paper, while not perfect, Makes a convincing argument in response to the topic, providing
- useful references in support of or in refutation of the reading
- originality of thought or presentation
- sophistication in style or reasoning
Shows mastery of composition skills, providing
- a thesis
- an organized, coherent response
- a consistent point of view
- fully developed paragraphs
- sentence variety
- precise word choice
- conformity to the conventions of usage

5—A five paper clearly shows above average competence in reasoning and writing. A five paper Makes a good argument in response to the topic, demonstrating
- understanding of the reading by giving credit for ideas and words
- some reasons, ideas, and examples other than those provided in the reading
- some sense of style or reasoning
Shows control of composition skills, providing
- a thesis
- an organized, coherent response
- developed paragraphs
- sentence variety
- precise word choice
- conformity to the conventions of usage, few errors in sentence structure or usage

4—A four paper shows adequate composition skills for beginning students in English 1a or for recipients of associate degrees. A four paper Makes a reasonable response to the topic, demonstrating
- an understanding of the reading
- some ideas or examples other than those provided in the reading
- plausible reasoning with few errors in logic
Shows some control of composition skills, providing
- a central idea appropriate to the topic
- an organizational plan that the reader can follow, keeping the focus on topic or returning to the topic after minor digression
- reasonably well-developed paragraphs
- sentence variety
- reasonably clear prose without errors in sentence structure and usage that interfere with the reader’s ability to comprehend

Essays with scores of 4-6 may have occasional lapses in credit/attribution of the article

(4-6 scores reflect essays that demonstrate readiness for English 1a or graduation)
(1-3 scores reflect essays that demonstrate inadequate skills necessary for English 1a/graduation)
3—A three paper shows **inadequate composition skills** for beginning students in English 1a or for recipients of associate degrees. A three paper

Makes **a weak response** to the topic in one or more of the following ways
- lacking an understanding of the reading
- failing to refer to the reading
- lacking ideas or examples other than those provided in the reading
- failing to adequately credit or attribute words or ideas from the reading
- having serious breaches in logic

Shows **inadequate control of composition** skills in one or more of the following ways
- lacking a central idea (lacking a thesis altogether or offering more than one thesis)
- lacking a clear plan of organization or offering a contrived or inappropriate formulaic plan
- lacking an ability to stay on topic or to return to topic after a digression
- lacking sentence variety
- distracting the reader with numerous and varied sentence structure or usage errors

2—A two paper shows **notable deficiencies in composition skills** for beginning students in English 1a or for recipients of associate degrees. A two paper

Makes **an incomplete response** to the topic in one or more of the following ways
- failing to respond to the topic
- seriously misunderstanding the topic or the reading
- blatantly plagiarizing by taking significant portions from the reading without attribution
- lacking an reasonable arguments or making unsupportable points
- under-developing the essay or falling significantly below the 400-word limit

Shows **inadequate control of composition** skills in one or more of the following ways
- lacking a thesis or central idea
- lacking any organizational plan
- offering tangled sentences that impede the reader’s comprehension
- using primer prose
- distracting the reader with numerous and varied sentence structure or usage errors

1—A two paper shows **severe deficiencies in composition skills** for beginning students in English 1a or for recipients of associate degrees. A two paper

Makes **a poor response** to the topic in one or more of the following ways
- showing no comprehension of the topic whatsoever
- lacking any proper attribution
- lacking any mention of the source

Shows **poor control of composition** skills in one or more of the following ways
- offering sentences so tangled as to make comprehension impossible
- demonstrating little or no control of the conventions of written English
- abandoning the paper before it is completed