

## Rubric for AP Essays

Score	Letter Grade	Grade	Criteria for score
9	A	98	Excellent, specific thesis; excellent illustrations/specific, detailed support; excellent organization; sound mechanics; effective imagination, sees and makes connections; no major grammatical errors (SVA, PNC, PNA, CS, SF, RO)
8	A-	93	Excellent, specific thesis; excellent illustrations/specific, detailed support; efficient organization; less imagination of speculation; a few mechanical flaws which do not reduce the impact of the analysis; no more than 1 instance of major grammatical errors
7	B+	91	Intelligent, yet less concise thesis; effective illustrations; sound organization; adequate mechanics; a "safe" paper, beautifully done; no more than 2 instances of major grammatical errors
6	B	88	Good, safe thesis, completely adequate in every way; some illustrations; a beginning, middle, and end; significantly less imagination; no more than 3 instances of major grammatical errors
5	B-	85	The thesis is adequate, yet unnecessarily general; predictable illustrations; general analysis; a few definite mechanical flaws; intelligent observations and conclusions; contains minor errors in comprehension of work (mistaken character or place names, etc.); no more than 3 instances of major grammatical errors; use of 2 <sup>nd</sup> person or 1 <sup>st</sup> person – one instance
4	C	80	The thesis is too large or vague; some illustrations, but surface analysis; definite mechanical flaws or carelessness; the writing has "moments" when it's an essay as opposed to a plot summary or other form; shows major problems with comprehension of work; no more than 4 instances of major grammatical errors
3	C-	77	An adequate report; the thesis is much too large or vague; an intelligent summary; few illustrations; punctuation flaws; might reflect a simple lack of effort or hurried, last-minute preparation; 4 or more instances of major grammatical errors; use of 1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> person – more than one instance
2	D	70	The thesis, if it exists, is hiding; it is up to the reader to find it; assortment of rambling generalizations; amidst all the generalization, there are enough intelligent observations to justify a passing grade; many grammatical errors; 5 or more instances of major grammatical errors
1	F	60	Lack of effort; no thesis, therefore nothing to illustrate; no interest in topic; usually, rather brief, undeveloped; completely off-topic; shows no comprehension of work; contains 6 or more major grammatical errors.