

College Essay Rubric 2023-2024

Student	Criteria	Teacher
	<i>AE= Approaching Expectations</i> <i>ME= Meets Expectations</i> <i>EE= Exceeds Expectations</i>	
	Quality: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Audience/Voice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Does it sound professional? ○ Does it sound like you? ● Prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Does it answer the prompt? ● Grammar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Were general suggested grammar and spelling mistakes corrected? ○ Little to no spelling/grammar mistakes. ● Polish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Does it look and feel finished and in MLA format? 	
	Quantity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Word Count <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Does the essay get as close to 350 words as possible without going over? 	
	Skill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sentence Combining <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Does the essay use complex sentences to say more with less words? 	
	Student Writing Goal: <i>(Insert a personal writing growth opportunity that you would like to get kind, specific and helpful feedback on.)</i>	
	OVERALL EVALUATION	

Humanities: College Essay

Instructions: Below is the full set of Common App essay prompts from 2021-2022. Choose one of these prompts. Word limit: 350 words.

First draft due: Friday, October 13th for peer/teacher feedback.

Final draft due: Wed. October 18th.

PROMPTS

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Materials:

[Slides](#)

[Edit activity](#)

[Sentence combining worksheet](#)

[Exemplar Essays](#)

Resources:

[College PIQ Video](#)

[Conjunctions](#)

[Action Verbs](#)

[MLA Format](#)