|  |
| --- |
| Holistic Scoring Chart – by Craig Hadden |
|  | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| **Substance** | Clear and sustained purposeStrong sense of audienceConsistent point of viewRelevance to the questionRelatively high sophistication of thought | Some awareness of purpose & the ability to sustain itSome sense of audienceFairly consistent point of viewGeneral relevance to the questionSome sophistication of thought but average on the whole | Question addressed but with a tendency to replace original thought with platitudesDrifts into personal reverieLittle audience awarenessVague sense of point of viewIntroduction of irrelevanciesLittle sophistication of thought | No evidence of being able to move between generalizations & concrete statementsFailure to address or clear misunderstanding of questionNo thesis or wanders from thesis, making the discussion pointlessNo audience awarenessEach sentence presents a new idea |
| **Specificity****(Paragraph Development)** | Several specific examples and/or  details to support the general ideas | Use of some specific examples and  or details, but not as many (3 or  fewer) or as detailed as a 4 | Details tend to be general and  writer gives only two unelaborated  ideas | Almost no use of details or  modification which would  elaborate on the topic and giving  only one unelaborated ideaIdeas remain general |
| **Organization** | Clear central idea (thesis)Strong sense of unityClear sense of an introduction,  body and conclusionGood use of transitionsClear, identifiable pattern of  organizationOverall sense of wholeness | Clear but blunt thesisSense of unity, order, and  transition, but not as polished as a 4Sense of an introduction, body, and  conclusion but may be in a formula  5-paragraph patternOverall sense of wholeness but  stiff | Thesis present but blunt or vague  and may not be sustained by the  discussionDetails gathered but not ordered in  a meaningful wayTransition words rarely usedMixture of organization formsOne- or two-paragraph answer | No clear thesis statement; just  begins answering the questionClauses and sentence unconnected  beyond one or two sentencesLack of transitionsUnclear organizationOne paragraph, somewhat short  response |
| **Expression****(Sentence Structure)****(Vocabulary)** | Good variety of sentence types,  beginnings, and lengthConciseAccurate and precise word choiceCould demonstrate effective use of  parallelism, sensual words, and  active verbs | Uses some complex structures but  tends to use more simpleLess variety in sentence beginnings  and sentences mostly 15-18 wordsTends to be wordyGood vocabulary but less varietyHeavy-handed figurative language,  if any | Predominant use of simple and  compound structuresLittle variety in sentence  beginnings and sentences mostly  between 13-15 words longMisuses some words and/or uses  vague or inappropriate wordsNo use of figurative languageMixture of formal language &  slang | Use of simple and compound  structures almost exclusivelyNo sentence variety and tendency  to write short, choppy sentencesDepends on vague, general  vocabulary (e.g. “thing,” “get,”  “go,” “make,” “do,” “it,” etc.)Absence of elaborate modificationUses many colloquial/slang words |
| **Correctness****(Grammar)****(Mechanics)****(Spelling)** | Virtually no serious grammatical  errorsFew mechanical errors and most (if  not all) will be comma errorsNo misspellings of common words | If errors occur, they will generally  be dangling or misplaced  modifiers, mood errors, or  who/whom errorsMore mechanical errors than 4 but  mostly comma errorsPossibly more misspellings but not  common words  | Errors with pronouns; adverbs &  adjectives; fragments, comma  splices, run-ons; and shifts in  person and/or numberMore mechanical errors and with  more than commasMisspellings of both common and  uncommon words | Errors with verb inflection, tense  and auxiliary verbs; noun  inflections; pronoun reference and  case; and agreementMechanical errors with  capitalization, end punctuation, and  commasMany misspellings of all words |