

Name: _____

Prompt: _____

Grade: _____

Superior A-Range

- Goes beyond material covered in lectures.
- Demonstrates unusually critical reflection and/or innovative ideas.
- Arguments are easy to follow: they are well-reasoned, clear, and straightforward.
- Author demonstrates ability to "signpost" arguments.
- Argument has few or no logical errors.
- Essay has a clear and concise introduction, thesis, and conclusion.
- Introduction does not use the "inverted pyramid."
- Writing in the essay is clear and contains few or no grammatical errors.
- Author demonstrates in-depth understanding of the views on which s/he is writing.
- Author shows exceptional creativity and independent thinking in his/her definitions, argument, examples, or commentary.
- Citations and bibliography are accurate, consistent, and in acceptable format.

Meritorious B-Range

- Includes major points in the course material and shows appreciation of their importance.
- Some critical thinking or reflection demonstrated.
- Arguments are somewhat easy to follow, but they could be clearer, more straightforward, or more well-reasoned.
- Author attempts to "signpost" arguments.
- Argument contains some or few logical errors.
- Essay contains an introduction, thesis, and conclusion.
- Writing in the essay is clear but may contain a few grammatical errors.
- Author demonstrates understanding of the views on which s/he is writing.
- Author shows some creativity and independent thinking in his/her definitions, argument, examples, or commentary.
- Citations and bibliography are accurate, consistent and in acceptable format.

Satisfactory C-Range

- Includes major points from course material, but makes mistakes on key concepts, definitions, or relations of themes.
- Arguments are not easy to follow: they are unclear or not well-reasoned.
- Author does not "signpost" arguments.
- Argument contains logical errors.
- Essay may lack an introduction, thesis, or conclusion.
- Writing in the essay is unclear or contains grammatical errors.
- Author demonstrates some misunderstanding of the views on which s/he is writing.
- Author does not show creativity or independent thinking in his/her definitions, argument, examples, or commentary.
- Citations and bibliography may be formatted improperly.

Minimal D-Range

- Provides some relevant information but omits many important points.
- Contains a substantial number of errors or misconceptions.
- Little tie to relevant sources.
- Arguments are difficult to follow or may be absent from essay.
- Author does not attempt to "signpost" arguments.
- Argument contains significant logical errors.
- Essay displays no clear introduction, thesis, or conclusion.
- Writing is unclear or contains significant grammatical errors.
- Author demonstrates misunderstanding of the views on which s/he is writing.
- Citations and bibliography are improperly formatted or absent.

D- This is the minimum passing mark. Barely sufficient evidence to avoid failure, with only a rudimentary knowledge of the subject; contains irrelevant material or significant errors and misconceptions.

Failure. Inadequate in conception, substance or argument.

Further Comments Are Located On Essay Printout.