

FIVE PARAGRAPH ESSAY RUBRIC

CATEGORY	1	2	3	4
Introduction and Thesis	First paragraph is catchy. Thesis is evident and point to be argued well stated.	First paragraph has a weak "thesis." Thesis is mixed among many sentences and hard to piece together.	A catchy beginning was attempted but was confusing rather than catchy. Thesis is not entirely apparent although topic is evident.	No attempt was made to catch the reader's attention in the first paragraph. Thesis is not apparent nor is the topic of the essay.
Accuracy of Facts	All facts presented in the essay are accurate and relate back to the thesis.	Almost all facts presented in the essay are accurate and occasionally relate back to the thesis.	Most facts presented in the story are accurate (at least 70%). Evidence is sputtered about rather than used to prove your thesis.	There are several factual errors in the essay. There is no real effort to make the piece cohesive.
Organization	The essay is very well organized. Five paragraphs evident. One idea or scene follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions.	The essay is pretty well organized. Five paragraphs evident. One idea may seem out of place. Clear transitions are used.	The essay is a little hard to follow. Paragraphs are unclear. The transitions are sometimes not clear.	Ideas seem to be randomly arranged. No effort at paragraph organization.
Focus on Assigned Topic	The entire essay is related to the assigned topic and allows the reader to understand much more about the topic.	Most of the essay is related to the assigned topic. The essay wanders off at one point, but the reader can still learn something about the topic.	Some of the essay is related to the assigned topic, but a reader does not learn much about the topic.	No attempt has been made to relate the essay to the assigned topic.
Mechanics	The essay has few, if any, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, or usage errors.	The essay has two or three mechanics errors.	The essay has four or five mechanics errors.	The essay has more than five mechanics errors.