

Middle School Essay Writing Rubric 2020-2021

Format: double-spaced, Times New Roman, font size 11-12

Purpose, Focus, and Organization: Focused on the prompt, purpose, and audience.

- Clear idea with little or no loosely related info.
- Transitions that make it clear how ideas relate to each other.
- Organized from beginning to end with a clear introduction and conclusion.
- Appropriate style and tone for the audience.

Evidence and Elaboration: Sources are cited and relevant when used.

- Cited evidence and info using sources, facts, and details.
- Explanations in your own words supported by the sources that show an understanding of the prompt, topic, and sources.

Conventions: No repeated grammar mistakes.

- Proper use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling.
- 1 or 2 mistakes aren't the end of the world. However, for example, multiple run on sentences or misspellings lose points.

References and Citations: When referring to evidence and information, students should use paraphrasing and short quotations. To credit sources, students must mention *the name* of the source in the reference P.

Examples:

- Net neutrality protects an internet-users free speech by preventing internet service providers from blocking content, as stated by *ProCon.org*.
- According to *ProCon.org*, many internet companies including Google, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter started and grew to success without needing net neutrality regulations.
- *President Obama* stated that "An open Internet has been one of the most significant democratizing influences the world has ever known, and if the content is legal your ISP should not be allowed to block it"