

ESL 141 RUBRIC FOR HOLISTIC SCORING OF ESSAYS

Categories are defined as the following:

- O ORGANIZATION
- D DEVELOPMENT
- C CLAUSES
- M MORPHOLOGY
- P PUNCTUATION

	"4" Paper	Surface errors do not impede meaning.
O	has clear thesis statement, topic sentences, introduction, body, and conclusion	
D	responds thoughtfully to the topic, supports the answer with details and/or illustrations reflecting depth of thought	
C	consistently uses varied structures including independent and subordinate clauses and phrases correctly	
M	consistently uses verb tenses, singular and plural noun forms & word forms correctly	
P	has appropriate punctuation	
	"3" Paper	
O	has thesis statement, topic sentences, introduction, body, and conclusion	
D	responds well to the topic, supports the answer with details and/or illustrations	
C	often uses varied structures including independent and subordinate clauses and phrases correctly	
M	usually uses verb tenses, singular and plural noun forms & word forms correctly	
P	has very few end punctuation errors	
	"2" Paper	Surface errors may impede meaning.
O	has introduction, body, and conclusion, and may have a thesis statement	
D	answers the question tangentially, explains the answer with some details and/or illustrations; may be repetitious; essay may be somewhat short	
C	uses varied structures including independent and subordinate clauses and phrases but often incorrectly	
M	uses verb tenses, singular and plural noun forms & word forms with patterns of errors	
P	has patterns of punctuation errors which may include comma splice, run-on, and fragment, and errors in restrictive/non-restrictive clauses.	
	"1" Paper	Surface errors may impede meaning.
O	may lack clear introduction, body, conclusion, or division into paragraphs	
D	may answer the question tangentially or not at all, may explain the answer with few details and/or illustrations or be repetitious; essay may be very short	
C	rarely uses varied structures including independent and subordinate clauses and phrases or uses them incorrectly	
M	uses verb tenses, singular and plural noun forms & word forms with patterns of errors	
P	has patterns of frequent punctuation errors which may include comma splice, run-on, and fragment, and errors in restrictive/non-restrictive clauses	