

Module 2: The Art of Persuasive Writing

Authentic Assessment: Essay Rewrite Rubric

You have learned a great deal about the writing process. Some of it may have been review, and some may have provided new ideas for approaching an assignment. Regardless, you have probably come a long way from the essay you wrote in Module One already!

It is time to revisit that first essay, or another pre-assessment your teacher had you complete early in the course. Remember the assignment?

When given a class project, some people prefer to work in a group; others prefer to work alone. While group members can divide up tasks evenly and finish the project sooner, an individual does not have to rely on others if working alone. Write an essay in which you explain whether completing a project in a group or individually is better. Develop your argument with clear evidence and specific examples.

Step 1: Re-read your essay, keeping in mind all the components of an effective writing process you have examined throughout this module. Did you follow all the steps? Does your essay have adequate evidence? Do you keep your position consistent? Would your argument truly convince an audience? Are your body paragraphs balanced? Do you have an introduction and conclusion? Does the thesis occur at the end of the first paragraph?

Step 2: Go through your essay again and make comments throughout the paragraphs. You may do this by using a Track Changes tool in your word processing software or by printing out a copy and writing on it with a pen. Create an outline of the essay you wrote. Outlining will help you see where weak parts exist in the essay.

Step 3: Once you have thoroughly examined your essay, incorporate your revisions for submission to the dropbox.

Before you begin, review the Essay Rewrite Rubric to help you complete your assignment and understand how your work will be graded.

Once you have completed your essay, please submit your work to the dropbox.

Essay Rewrite Rubric

	25 Points	20 Points	15 Points	10 Points
Introduction	The introduction establishes the topic in an engaging way and ends with a clear thesis statement that provides the writer's position.	The introduction establishes the topic in an engaging way and ends with a somewhat clear thesis statement.	The introduction establishes the topic and ends with a clear thesis statement, though the position may not be clear.	The introduction establishes the topic ineffectively and ends with an unclear or non-existent thesis statement.

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Organization	The essay follows a clear organizational pattern as a result of outlining. All points follow logically and connect back to the thesis statement. The writer's position remains consistent.	The essay follows an organizational pattern, but parts may not be clear. Most points follow logically and connect back to the thesis statement. The writer's position remains consistent.	The essay struggles to follow an organizational pattern. Some points follow logically and connect back to the thesis statement. The writer's position remains consistent.	The majority of the essay does not follow an organizational pattern. Few points follow logically or connect back to the thesis statement. The writer's position is inconsistent.
Body Paragraphs	Body paragraphs are balanced with effective evidence, examples, and specifics. Each body paragraph opens with an effective, clear topic sentence that relates back to the thesis. The writer addresses and refutes a counterargument.	Body paragraphs are mostly balanced with effective evidence, examples, and specifics. Each body paragraph opens with a topic sentence that relates to the thesis. The writer may address but not refute a counterargument.	Some body paragraphs are unbalanced or lack effective evidence, examples, and specifics. Some body paragraphs open with topic sentences. The writer may address but not refute a counterargument.	Most body paragraphs are unbalanced and lack effective evidence, examples, and specifics. Topic sentences are difficult to detect or understand. No counterarguments are addressed.
Conclusion	The conclusion effectively closes the essay by reinforcing the writer's main points, posing a solution, and/or including a call to action.	The conclusion adequately closes the essay by reinforcing the writer's main points, posing a solution, and/or including a call to action.	The conclusion attempts to close the essay but may be unclear or the conclusion merely restates the introduction.	The conclusion ineffectively closes the essay, brings up new information, or is missing altogether.