

Grading Rubric for Essay Responses				
Criteria	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Satisfactory (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
Clarity and Organization	The response is well-organized with a complete structure. Ideas flow logically and are easy to follow.	The response is organized with an attempt at a structure, though some ideas may need more clarification.	The response has some organizational issues; ideas may be presented in a disjointed manner.	The response lacks clear structure or organization. Ideas are difficult to follow.
Relevance to the Prompt	Fully addresses the prompt with deep insight and originality.	Effectively addresses the prompt with some depth and analysis.	Responds to the prompt but lacks depth or a direct focus on the core issues.	Fails to address the prompt adequately or strays off-topic.
Depth of Reflection and Insight	Demonstrates deep self-awareness, critical thinking, and thoughtful analysis.	Reflects on personal experiences and ideas with some critical thinking.	Provides basic reflection with limited critical insight.	Little to no reflection or analysis; lacks depth.
Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity	Demonstrates strong cultural awareness, empathy, and openness to diversity.	Shows good cultural awareness with examples of respect for diversity.	Demonstrates limited cultural awareness and may lack sensitivity.	Shows little awareness or respect for cultural diversity.
Examples and Personal Experience	Provides concrete, relevant examples that enhance the response and reflect personal growth or understanding.	Provides clear examples but could benefit from more depth or specificity.	Examples are either too vague or not directly connected to the prompt.	Lacks relevant examples or personal experiences.