

PA F.E.A. Essay Writing Competition Scoring Rubric

CRITERIA	20-18 Exceptional	17-14 Innovative	13-10 Commendable	9-6 Competent	5-1 Emerging	SCORE
GUIDELINES						
300 – 500 words Single spaced with double spacing between paragraphs Proper APA Citation	Followed all guidelines with a clearly identified topic and a strong amount of appropriately cited research support.	Followed nearly all guidelines with a clearly identified topic and weak amount of appropriately cited research support.	Followed most guidelines with a somewhat identifiable topic and limited amount of cited support.	Followed few guidelines with a hard to identify topic and little to no cited support.	Did not follow guidelines, hard to identify topic and no support.	
TOPIC ORGANIZATION						
	Thesis clearly identified and essay on topic with strong supporting details. Clear conclusion with restated thesis.	Thesis mostly clear and identifiable. Essay mostly on topic with few supporting details. Conclusion mostly clear with restated thesis.	Thesis somewhat identifiable and essay mostly on topic with limited supporting details. Conclusion unclear and thesis not restated.	These unidentifiable and essay mostly on topic with few to no supporting details. Unclear conclusion and no thesis restatement.	Thesis unidentifiable and essay topic unclear/unidentifiable with no clear supporting details. Conclusion unclear with no thesis restatement.	
CONTENT						
	Essay ideas are meaningful and important. Content is clear and convincing. Essay is creative and original.	Ideas are meaningful. Content is clear. Some creativity and originality.	Ideas are only somewhat meaningful and content is unclear. Little to no creativity or originality.	Ideas do not seem meaningful and content is unclear. No creativity or originality.	Ideas are not meaningful and content is vague. No creativity or originality.	
GRAMMAR AND MECHANICS						
	Sentence structure is strong and accurate with error-free spelling and punctuation. No grammatical errors.	Sentence structure is mostly strong with error-free spelling and punctuation. Minimal grammatical errors.	Sentence structure mostly strong with minor spelling and punctuation errors. Some grammatical issues.	Sentence structure is weak with several spelling and punctuation errors. Numerous grammatical errors.	Sentence structure is very weak with numerous errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Clearly not proofread/edited.	
						TOTAL

Judges Initials: _____

COMMENTS: