



GRADES

An "A" grade is given for work which is outstanding.

- Content - the subject treatment shows superior intelligence, careful workmanship, and originality; it is interesting to read, not shallow.
- Organization - the work is organized clearly and forcefully so that the reader knows at all times the writer's purpose and intention.
- Paragraphs - coherent, full, and with emphasis.
- Sentences - precise, forceful, and interesting, always contributing to the writer's central purpose.
- Words & Images - exact and appropriate to their context; idioms are correct.
- Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation - free from error.

A "B" grade is given for work which is significantly above average.

- Content - shows strong expressive competence and above average ability to relate ideas intelligently; lacks some originality of thought.
- Organization - clear, but without the full clarity and tight coherence of the "A" paper; reader understands clearly the writer's intentions.
- Paragraphs - unified, coherent, and fairly well developed.
- Sentences - fluent and sufficiently varied in type and length to make for an easy, natural style.
- Words & Images - precise and with some concern for their connotative value.
- Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation - more or less free from error (1-2).

A "C" grade is given for work which is generally satisfactory and acceptable.

- Content - subject treatment is acceptable, but without distinction; it reveals some thinking but nothing in particular commends it.
- Organization - work has a relatively clear structure (the central idea is systematically developed, perhaps a bit mechanically).
- Paragraphs - while unified and developed, the development shows little originality.

- Sentences - correct and linked to one another, making for basic fluency; however, stylistically wooden or repetitious, and not forceful.
- Words & Images - generally correct but without much evocative power.
- Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation - generally correct, with a few slips (3-4).

A "D" grade is given for work which fails in some way to achieve satisfactory status.

- Content - subject treatment is thin; no central idea developed.
- Organization - while the work may be divided into subtopics, the organization is not wholly clear or effective.
- Paragraphs - present but not fully developed or coherently focused.
- Sentences - awkward, ambiguous, or overly simple in structure.
- Words & Images - often imprecise or inappropriate.
- Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation - faulty (5-6).

An "F" grade is given to work which is inadequate or unacceptable.

- Content - treatment is highly superficial or thoughtless.
- Organization - not divided, or illogically divided, into subtopics indicated by systematic paragraphing.
- Paragraphs - lack unity or are almost completely undeveloped.
- Sentences - so confused that they obscure the meaning or are constructed in a primer-like style.
- Words & Images - too frequently inexact or inept.
- Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation - botched (7 or more).