# Essay Grading Sheet

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**Introduction (20%)**
- States a topic and problem within the assignment
- Ends with a definite thesis statement (a specific opinion that can be disagreed with)
- Thesis gives insight into the assignment prompt

/5

**Organization (25%)**
- Main body organized in 3 sections, each addressing a different aspect of the thesis and building support for it
- Each section is driven by a specific, concrete assertion
- Each section is self-contained and focused on its topic

/5

**Analysis (25%)**
- Interpretation dominates over description (why over what)
- Analysis prefers the specific to the general
- Analysis provides insight on the relevant time and culture
- Analysis supports the section assertions and overall thesis
- Analysis provides in-depth answers to questions in prompt

/5

**Evidence (15%)**
- Evidence used is relevant and well-chosen
- Assertions are consistently supported by evidence
- Independent voice retained with judicious use of quotes

/5

**Conclusion (15%)**
- Paper ends with an appropriate concluding paragraph
- Conclusion draws together the arguments made in each section and reinforces the thesis
- Conclusion answers questions from assignment prompt

/5

## Base Grade
(before deductions)

### Reversible Deductions
- No cover sheet
- No page numbers
- Line spacing, margins, other formatting
- Work titles not italicized/capitalized
- Missing items in bibliography
- No bibliography
- Citations missing

If you have one of these, you may resubmit your paper with these problems fixed, and I will modify or remove the deductions. Only these deductions can be reversed.

### Nonreversible Deductions
- Paper submitted late
- Too short
- Fewer sources than required
- Tertiary sources used/heavily used
- Plagiarism

These deductions reflect problems inherent to the paper as it was submitted. They cannot be reversed.