Rubric

Personal Essay

CRITERIA	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
Planning	The student designed a creative plan for organizing the information presented in the essay.	The student developed a clear plan for organizing the information presented in the essay.	The student developed an incomplete plan for organizing the information presented in the essay.	The student seems to have no plan for organizing the information presented in the essay.
Point of View	The essay clearly and concisely identifies the point of view in the introductory paragraph as that of the author.	The essay identifies the point of view somewhere in the essay as that of the author.	The essay only makes some references that can be attributed to the author.	It is impossible to determine whose point of view is expressed in the essay.
Developing the topic	There is one clear, well-focused topic. The main idea stands out and is supported by detailed information.	The main idea is clear, but the supporting information is general.	The main idea is somewhat clear, but there is a need for more supporting information.	The main idea is not clear. There is a seemingly random collection of information.
Using appropriate language	The student uses appropriate vocabulary, including sensory words, to inform or explain the topic throughout the narrative.	The student mostly uses appropriate vocabulary to inform or explain the topic throughout the narrative.	The student sometimes uses vocabulary incorrectly or out of context.	The student makes no attempt to use vocabulary that enhances the content of the narrative.
Provides a concluding statement	The student provides a clearly stated concluding statement. The statement acknowledges and supports the information or explanation presented.	The student provides a concluding statement that generally supports the information or explanation presented.	The student provides a vague concluding statement that does not specifically support the information or explanation presented.	The student does not include a concluding statement.