**English II Honors: Essay Rubric (Based on AP Rubric Criteria)**

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| **LEVEL** | **CRITERIA** | **SUGGESTIONS** |
| **10 / A + / 100** | **Uniquely brilliant and eloquent thesis Detailed, varied, fully integrated supportNo issues with organization/flowCollege-level content and expression** | **You’re an amazing writer. Just keep doing your thing.**  |
| **9 / A / 96** | **Insightful, specific and smooth thesis Highly detailed, specific, varied supportEfficiently organized paper with clear logic No major errors, sophisticated expression** | **Try to push your already-excellent ideas over the top with a little more creativity.** |
| **8 / A - / 92** | **Excellent, specific, clear thesis/content****Very detailed support + unpackingWell-organized with strong connectionsContent is thought-provoking but limitedFew errors, strong expression, clear “voice”** | **Nicely done – time to start looking for ways to take more intense compositional risks.** |
| **7 / B+ / 88** | **Intelligent, but wordy thesisStrong support, largely unpacked****Could take more compositional risks Clear, logical organization with transitionsFew errors, good, readable expression**  | **Integrate your textual evidence more fully; take compositional risks! This will bring you to the A levels.**  |
| **6 / B / 84** | **Good, but “safe” thesis, basic contentAdequate support, some unpackingSound organization, weaker transitionsFew errors, clear, some repetition** | **You need to take a step forward in analytic depth. Think outside the box.** |
| **5 /C+ / 80** | **Thesis is sound, but too generalSupport is present but underdevelopedClear organization, but lacks connectionsSome errors, no effect on meaning** | **You’ve got the basics of structuring an essay, but you need stronger ideas to make it interesting and relevant.**  |
| **4 /C /76** | **Vague thesis, unclear argumentOrganization lacks flow, connectionsContent and expression underdevelopedSome errors which impede meaning**  | **You’re getting the basis, but still need to tweak things, especially your thesis.**  |
| **3 / D + /72** | **Unclear or confusing thesis Unoriginal or obvious contentIllogical organization with no links4 Major grammatical errors, wordy/vague** | **Lack of strong thesis fails to lay the groundwork for an argument. Back to outlining.** |
| **2 / D /68** | **Weak or fragmentary thesisGeneral observations, little analysisLack of effort in developing contentAs many as 5 serious errors, unclear writing** | **Unless you just put no effort into this, you need a lot of work on the basics of writing.** |
| **1 / F / 64** | **No thesis / Little support, no explanationUnderdeveloped / off topicLack of interest or effort 5+ Major errors that interfere w. meaning** |  **See me.** |