

KEARNY AJROTC ESSAY RUBRIC

Category	2	4	6	8	10	Score
Introduction and Thesis/Topic	No attempt was made to catch the reader's attention in the first paragraph. There is no focus in the essay, no topic and no thesis.	Little attempt was made to catch the reader's attention in the first paragraph. Thesis is not apparent nor is the topic of the essay.	A catchy beginning was attempted but was confusing rather than catchy. Thesis is not entirely apparent and topic is unclear.	First paragraph has a weak "grabber." Thesis is mixed among many sentences and hard to piece together.	First paragraph is catchy. Thesis is evident and point to be argued well stated.	
Meaning /Development	A laundry list of ideas that are unclear, unrelated, undeveloped and uncreative.	Vague abstractions about the topic; generic descriptions and very little creativity.	Minimal abstractions about the topic; some descriptions and undeveloped creativity.	Describing using good detail and development; appeals to the senses.	Great description and developed detail; strong appeal to the senses and emotions.	
Organization	No arrangement of ideas. No organization in paragraph form.	Ideas seem to be randomly arranged. No effort at paragraph organization.	The essay is a little hard to follow. Paragraphs are unclear. The transitions are sometimes not clear.	The essay is pretty well organized. One idea may seem out of place. Clear transitions are used.	The essay is very well organized. Paragraph structure evident. One idea follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions.	
Language	Minimal or no use of sophisticated vocabulary. Sentence structure is poor and unvaried.	Sporadic or overused vocabulary. Some sentences are too short or too long, not varied enough.	Overused and sometimes inappropriate vocabulary. Varied sentence structure.	Sophisticated vocabulary, though some inappropriately used; varied sentence structure.	Strong and appropriate use of vocabulary; varied sentence structure.	
Mechanics	The essay is so difficult to understand because of ten or more mechanics errors.	The essay has more than five (but less than ten) mechanics errors.	The essay has four or five mechanics errors.	The essay has two or three mechanics errors.	The essay has few, if any, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, or usage errors.	