**Short Essay Rubric**

**Dimension 1: Issue Within Community**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviewer Rating Prompt 1: Introduced Issue Within Community (Weight = 1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The essay should clearly identify and describe a specific issue present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>within the writer’s community with a substantial amount of detail.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>One specific issue is clearly stated with a great amount of detail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>One specific issue is clearly stated with detail, but some minor details are missing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>One issue is identified but it may not be stated clearly, OR there are not many specifics given.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>An issue is discussed but there is significant vagueness in what is said AND there is no clear understanding of the issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Incomplete OR lacks the basic requirements expected.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reviewer Comment Prompt**

- Does the essay describe a single issue within the community?
- Is this issue clear and fully developed?
- Could anything be clearer or better developed?

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**Reviewer Rating Prompt 2: Shows Why Issue Is Important (Weight = 2)**

The discussion of the issue should include the following criteria:

- There are clear and specific details and evidence for the importance and immediacy of this issue.
- The essay goes into specifics about the impact on society and the local community.
- There is a discussion of what will happen if this issue goes untouched.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>The essay fully covers all three of the above criteria in great detail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The essay covers all three of the above criteria in sufficient detail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The essay describes and explains the importance of the issue but lacks a full discussion of its impact on society and its immediacy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The essay does not explain the significance of the issue and frequently lacks detail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The essay only covers one of the above criteria OR does not discuss the issue.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The discussion of the demographics should include:

- An analysis of the demographics impacted by the societal issue
- A description of the demographics seeking help from the organization, including specific details
- A comparison between each of the listed subgroups that are impacted by the issue.

The essay thoroughly describes all demographics impacted and makes appropriate comparisons in great detail.

The essay describes all demographics impacted and makes appropriate comparisons in sufficient detail. Some minor details may be missing, but everything is stated clearly.

The essay makes a basic comparison between the demographics impacted. There may be some minor confusion or some missing details.

There is an attempt to compare the demographics impacted but this is not successful. Significant details are missing or very unclear.

Incomplete or lacks the basic requirements expected.
INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION

MINI ASSIGNMENT 1

Short Essay
Rubric

Dimension 2
Organizational Impacts

Reviewer Comment Prompt
• Look at the description of how the organization works to impact the harm done by the issue present in society.
• Think about how the writer presented the organization and their work.
• What did the writer do well?
• What is missing or could be improved?

REVIEWER RATING PROMPT 1:
DESCRIBES ORGANIZATION IN COMMUNITY BEING PROFILED
(WEIGHT = 1)

The organization and its history should be clearly described, along with its connection to the issue present in society.

7 Excellent description of the organization, its history, and its work to address the issue.
6 Good description of the organization, its history, and its work to address the issue. Some minor details connecting the organization to the issue in society are missing.
4 Fair description of the organization, its history, and its work to address the issue. Many details are missing; a brief web search would return the same information as in the description.
2 Brief description of the organization. Major details about its work and connection to the issue are missing.
1 No description of the organization and its work.

REVIEWER RATING PROMPT 2:
HOW ORGANIZATION IS WORKING TO SOLVE ISSUE
(WEIGHT = 2)

The paper should show how the organization is working to solve the issue in the community with relevant examples and support.

7 Excellent description of the organization’s work. There are clear examples and no confusion about the organization’s role in addressing this issue.
6 Good description of the organization’s work. Some examples of this work are missing, leading to minor confusion about the organization’s role in addressing this issue.
4 There is a description of the organization’s work, but some details and examples are missing.
2 There is a description of the organization’s work, but there is significant confusion about how the organization is involved in working to fix the issue.
1 No description of the organization’s work in addressing this issue.
MINI ASSIGNMENT 1

REVIEWER RATING PROMPT 1: HYPERLINKS TO EXTERNAL RESOURCES (WEIGHT = 1)

All hyperlinks to external resources should meet the following criteria:

- Are valid
- Have a purpose
- Support what is being said in writing.

7  More than four hyperlinks meet all criteria.
6  Four hyperlinks meet all criteria.
4  Three hyperlinks meet all criteria.
2  Two hyperlinks meet all criteria.
1  One or none of the hyperlinks meet all criteria.

REVIEWER RATING PROMPT 2: SCHOLARLY RESEARCH (WEIGHT = 1)

All sources should be scholarly and clearly relate to and support the topic.

7  More than four scholarly sources clearly relate to the topic.
6  Four sources clearly relate to the topic.
4  Three sources clearly relate to the topic.
2  Two sources clearly relate to the topic.
1  One or none of the sources clearly relate to the topic.
Short Essay
Rubric

Dimension 3
Scholarly Support

Reviewer Comment Prompt
Comment on the hyperlinks and sources referenced. Be specific in your comments.
- Do all of the hyperlinks link?
- Do they provide relevant support?
- Look at the sources.
- What did the author do well in supporting his/her argument?
- Are there any sources that could be more relevant?

Reviewer Rating Prompt 3:
FLOW/ORGANIZATION AND MECHANICS
(WEIGHT = 1)

Student’s writing is meticulous. There are no errors in grammar or punctuation, and transitions and other connections are used to establish clear flow.

Student’s writing is virtually error free. The only errors are minor and do not distract the reader from what the student is trying to express. The errors are in the way the student uses connections and/or transitions or in grammar and punctuation. The errors do not distract the reader from understanding what is being said.

Student’s writing is good overall, and there are not any significant errors. The errors are in grammar or punctuation and/or in the way connections and transitions are used to go from one topic to the next. The errors may slightly distract the reader from understanding what is being said, but the main points are understood.

Student’s writing is hard to understand. There are many errors in grammar and punctuation, and little to no transitions and other connections are used to go from one topic to another. Errors in writing make it significantly hard to understand what the student is trying to express.

Incomplete or lacks the basic requirements expected.