

Name: _____

AP English Literature and Composition Personal Writing Rubric

CRITERIA	5	4	3	2	1
Ideas (35%) X 7 = _____	The essay offers unique insight about personal traits and values and conveys experience through vivid details that create an engaging picture.	The essay provides a clear idea about personal traits and values through significant experience conveyed through appropriate detail.	The focus is clear, but the essay may not specifically reveal personal traits and values. The supporting detail may be thin, and the narrative may contain generalities.	The essay's focus is unclear or disjointed, treatment of the topic is vague, and development is rudimentary.	The narrative lacks focus, and there is little or no evidence offered to support the essay's ideas.
Organization (20%) X 4 = _____	The essay imparts a feeling of wholeness and clarity while the beginning inspires reader's interest. Organization inventively suits topic and purpose. Transitions are strong.	The essay's points are logically ordered, well developed, and unified around a clear and apparent organizing principle. Transitions may need to be stronger.	Organization is competent for topic and purpose. However, transitions may be formulaic and should be stronger.	The narrative lacks clear planning, and paragraphs may be loosely constructed and insufficiently developed. Transitions are weak or superficial.	There appears to be no plan of organization in the narrative, and paragraphing may be neglected altogether. Transitions are lacking.
Voice (15%) X 3 = _____	Writer's voice is unique, like a fingerprint. Writer is clearly passionate and vibrant. Tone is apt and enhances meaning and is compelling to audience.	Writer speaks in a convincing and distinctive way that is appropriate for the topic and appealing to audience.	Writer reveals some individuality but is inconsistent in voice. Writer may only minimally consider audience.	Writer's tone shows lack of interest in or concern about topic and does not appeal to audience.	Writer's tone is inappropriate for the topic, and the writer shows lack of knowledge of interest. Writer fails to consider audience.
Word Choice (10%) X 2 = _____	Diction is distinguished for its range, exactness, and creativity.	The language is apt and precise, with clear references and correct inference.	Words lack precision and color; generalizations rather than exact distinctions may be used.	Word choice is vague, trite, repetitive, or inappropriate.	Choice of words is impoverished or frequently inexact.
Syntax (10%) X 2 = _____	The sentences are clear, concise, varied, and engaging. Sentences types effectively convey the ideas expressed.	The sentences are clear and varied in type and beginnings.	Sentences lack variety and are overly safe or monotonous. More variety is needed in the beginnings and/or kinds of sentences.	Sentences are awkward, ambiguous, or immature in structure.	Sentences are confused and meaningless or are constructed in elementary style.
Conventions (10%) X 2 = _____	Copy is flawless. Writer strictly adheres to MLA format and conventions of the English language.	Copy includes few minor errors. Writer follows MLA format and English conventions with occasional lapses in editing.	Copy exhibits multiple types of minor errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and/or MLA format but no major errors.	Copy contains errors (major* or repeated minor) in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and/or MLA format.	Copy is marred by pervasive major* errors that interfere with the meaning of the essay and shows a disregard for MLA format.
_____/100	SCORE				