

## Scoring Guideline: College 2nd Year (General/Business-focused)

### Score = 6

In response to this assignment, you have responded appropriately and effectively. Here are some of the strengths in your writing:  
Your essay:

- \* States or implies clearly your thesis or position on this topic
- \* Organizes and develops ideas logically with clear, insightful connections among them
- \* Uses particularly well-chosen evidence (reasons, examples, or details) to support your ideas
- \* Conveys your meaning in an interesting, imaginative, or particularly effective style
- \* Demonstrates sentence structure and variety that enhances your emphasis
- \* Displays facility and clarity in choice of language
- \* Uses grammar and mechanics correctly (virtually free of errors) and demonstrates understanding of correct usage

### Score = 5

You have solid writing skill and something interesting to say in response to this assignment, but you have made some choices that you can improve upon.

Your essay:

- \* States or implies clearly your thesis or position on this topic
- \* Organizes and develops ideas with clear connections among them
- \* Uses relevant evidence (reasons, examples, or details) to support your ideas
- \* Demonstrates variety in sentence structure
- \* Displays competency in word choice
- \* Uses grammar and mechanics correctly (pretty much without error) and demonstrates understanding of correct usage

### Score = 4

You have written an appropriate essay in response to this assignment; however, you could develop your ideas more fully or thoughtfully and use language more effectively.

Your essay:

- \* States or implies your thesis or position
- \* Organizes and develops your ideas with control
- \* Uses adequate evidence (reasons, examples, or details) to support your ideas
- \* Uses sentence forms adequately, but without the most effective possibilities in structure and variety
- \* Demonstrates an adequate vocabulary
- \* Displays control of the basics of grammar, usage, and mechanics, but may have errors

### Score = 3

Your writing shows competence in response to the assignment, but your essay is also limited in one or more areas. If you work to improve your writing, then you should see satisfying results.

In one or more of the following areas, your essay is limited. Your essay:

- \* Lacks a thesis, stated or implied, or fails to take a position clearly and adequately
- \* Could demonstrate more control in the development and organization of ideas
- \* Could use more support (reasons, examples, or details) and discussion
- \* Needs sentences with adequate variety and structure
- \* Could improve upon word choice or language
- \* Has incorrect grammar, usage, or mechanics

### Score = 2

You have work to do to improve your writing. You probably have not addressed the topic or communicated your ideas effectively, or your writing may be difficult to understand.

In one or more of the following areas, your essay is weak. Your essay:

- \* Lacks a clear thesis, stated or implied, or does not take a position
- \* Does not develop ideas or is organized weakly
- \* Fails to provide evidence--any or enough reasons or details
- \* Has sentence structures that are not correct or appropriate
- \* Uses words that sometimes confuse rather than communicate meaning
- \* Contains many errors in grammar, word usage, and sentence structure

### Score = 1

You have much work to do in order to improve your writing skills. You are not writing with complete understanding of the topic, or you do not have much of a sense of what you need to do to write better. You need advice from a writing instructor and lots of practice.

Your essay:

- \* Is filled with serious writing errors
- \* Is not a coherent unit of thought and written communication, or
- \* Is undeveloped--there is no discussion here