



**Miami Northwestern Senior High  
Honors Writing Rubric**

The rubric below shows how your writing is scored.

Score	Scholastic Criterion
20-25 <b>23 - 25 [A]</b> <b>20 - 22 [B]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Papers are specific to their references clearly, directly, and fully.</li> <li>* Writer demonstrates the ability to discuss a literary work with insight and understanding and to control a wide range of the elements of effective composition.</li> <li>* They need not, however, be free from errors.</li> <li>* At all times, they stay focused on the prompt, providing specific support—mostly through direct quotations—and connecting scholarly commentary to overall meaning.</li> </ul>
15-19 <b>18 - 19 [C]</b> <b>15 - 17 [D]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Papers are less thorough, less perceptive or less specific than 20-/9 papers.</li> <li>* They indicate good understanding of the text and support their points with appropriate textual references and/or quotations.</li> <li>* While they demonstrate the writer's ability to analyze a literary work, they reveal a more limited understanding and less stylistic maturity than do the papers in the 8/9 range.</li> <li>* The writing in these papers is forceful and clear, but need not be free from errors.</li> </ul>
10-14 <b>10 - 14 [F+]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Papers typically address the assigned question intelligently, but do not answer it fully and specifically. Plastic and 'safe'.</b></li> <li>* <b>Discussion of meaning may be formulaic, mechanical, or inadequately related to the chosen details.</b></li> <li>* <b>They usually demonstrate inconsistent control over the elements of composition and are not as well conceived, organized, or developed as the upper-half papers.</b></li> <li>* <b>However, the writing is sufficient to convey the writer's ideas, stays mostly focused on the prompt, and contains at least some effort to produce analysis, direct or indirect.</b></li> </ul>
5-9 <b>5 - 9 [F-]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Papers fail in some important way to fulfill the assignment.</li> <li>* They may omit a part of the question completely, fail to provide minimal textual support for their points, or base their analysis on misreading of some part of the text.</li> <li>* The writing may convey the writer's ideas, but it reveals weak control over such elements as diction, organization, syntax, or grammar.</li> <li>* They may have little, if any, supporting evidence, and practice paraphrase and plot summary at the expense of analysis.</li> </ul>

O-4  
[Really?]

\* Papers may compound the weakness of essays in the 4-3 range and are frequently unacceptably brief.  
\* They are poorly written on several counts, including many distracting errors in grammar and mechanics.  
\* Although the writer may have made some effort to answer the question, the views presented have little clarity or coherence OR simply Plagiarized.



## Honors Writing Rubric – Student Shorthand Version

23 - 25 [A]

Subtle, relaxed, especially full analysis, and demonstrates impressive stylistic control. Use of good grammar, flows, recognized elements.

20 - 22 [B]

Effective analysis, convincing explanations, good control of writing.

18 - 19 [C]

Adequate analysis, ideas well developed, mature prose style. Not bad...ok...lacking some depth.

15 - 17 [D]

Adequate analysis, refers to text directly or indirectly, prose is clear. lacking some depth.

10 - 14 [F]

Analysis present but limited, treatment may be superficial, prose conveys ideas. Poor structure. Lacks insight and depth. Regurgitation of ideas.

5 - 9 [F-]

Inadequate response to the question, may misrepresent the text, immature prose control.

5 - 9 [F-]

Inadequate response to the question, less perception and control than a 4.

0-4 [Really?]

Little analytical success, marked simplicity, control lacking. Plagiarize. Obviously lacks structure. Sorely Incomplete.

~The best papers answer the question directly, often in the first sentence.  
~ Papers without examples and/or quotations are almost always lower half.

---