



PAVE Essay Contest and Scholarship Program Scoring Rubric

	1 - Needs Improvement	2- Fair	3 - Good	4 - Strong	5 - Exceptional	Score
Development of topic and details	<p>No thesis, or an undeveloped thesis, theme or topic</p> <p>Few or no relevant details to support topic</p>	<p>Inconsistent or basic development of thesis, theme, or topic</p> <p>Details lack elaboration; important details omitted; some details inaccurate</p>	<p>Adequate development of thesis and topic</p> <p>Conclusion is more than just a summary</p> <p>Details are adequate, relevant; some elaboration</p>	<p>Fully developed thesis, theme or topic</p> <p>Draws a conclusion</p> <p>Details are specific, enhance development of theme, and are well supported</p>	<p>Clearly & fully developed, original and insightful thesis, theme or topic</p> <p>Rich supporting details are fully elaborated upon and enhance development</p>	/50
Creativity and Originality	<p>Lacks creativity or demonstration of original ideas</p>	<p>Surface attempt at creativity; some attempts at originality or creativity confusing</p>	<p>Some creative elements demonstrate an effort for originality</p>	<p>Essay is original and interesting</p>	<p>Essay is original, interesting and very engaging</p>	/30
Organization and Format	<p>Lacks focus and organization; unclear strategy for organization</p> <p>Format does not match requirements (i.e. over word count)</p>	<p>Establishes but does not maintain focus; organization has some transitions</p> <p>Major formatting issues</p>	<p>Mostly clear focus throughout; logical progression of with transitions, some inconsistencies</p> <p>Some incorrect formatting with minor inconsistencies</p>	<p>Clear and appropriate focus; logical organization throughout with appropriate transitions</p> <p>Paper is formatted correctly</p>	<p>Clear and appropriate focus; effective use of transitions; writer expresses relationships among different ideas; careful organization</p> <p>Entire paper is formatted correctly</p>	/10
Grammar, Word Choice, and Mechanics	<p>Errors in grammar and mechanics make writing unclear</p> <p>Poor sentence structure; many run-ons and/or fragments</p> <p>Low sentence variety</p> <p>Limited vocabulary or incorrect use of terms</p>	<p>Errors in grammar & mechanics are frequent/ distracting</p> <p>Complete sentences</p> <p>Rudimentary sentence variety</p> <p>Appropriate vocabulary use</p>	<p>Some errors in grammar & mechanics</p> <p>Complete sentences</p> <p>Deliberate sentence variety</p> <p>Effective vocabulary</p>	<p>Few errors in grammar & mechanics</p> <p>Sentence variety enhances style & effect</p> <p>Varied and precise word choice and vocabulary</p>	<p>Demonstrates mastery of grammar and mechanics</p> <p>Complex sentence variety enhances style & effect</p> <p>Sophisticated language and word choice</p>	/10
TOTAL						/100