

Research Paper Rubric

- 1. Format** 20_____
 - a. 7-8 pages
 - b. MLA heading & header
 - c. Times New Roman, 12pt
 - d. Double spaced
 - e. 1-inch margins
- 2. Introduction** 30_____
 - a. Hook, context, thesis
- 3. Thesis** 20_____
 - a. Arguable claim
 - b. Provides a map for the paper
- 4. Essay Organization** 50_____
 - a. Matches thesis
 - b. Similar topics grouped together
 - c. Topics sufficiently developed
- 5. Paragraph Structure** 50_____
 - a. Topic sentence (TS) ties back to thesis
 - b. Evidence supports TS and thesis
 - c. Evidence in every body paragraph
 - d. Explains how evidence supports claims
 - e. Concluding sentence
- 6. Evidence** 50_____
 - a. Integrated well
 - b. Introduced (signal phrase)
 - c. Punctuated correctly
 - d. Parenthetical citation after EVERY quote/paraphrase
 - e. Limited paraphrasing/summarizing
 - f. We hear more from the author than their sources
 - g. No more than 1 block quote
- 7. Conclusion** 30_____
 - a. Revisits the main points (NOT restated verbatim)
 - b. Offers a solution or further thinking
 - c. Feels complete
 - d. No new information
- 8. Works Cited** 30_____
 - a. Conforms to MLA standards
 - b. Double-spaced
 - c. Alphabetical
 - d. Hanging indent
- 9. Sources** 30_____

- a. At least 6, no more than 12
- b. Scholarly & from reputable sources
- c. Each source listed is cited in-text

- 10. Mechanics & Usage** 50_____
 - a. Standard Written English
 - b. Jargon is defined
 - c. Precise word usage
 - d. No personal pronouns
 - e. Grammatically correct
 - f. Correct spelling & punctuation
 - g. Minimal contractions
- 11. Tone** 20_____
 - a. No slang, idioms, colloquialisms
 - b. Formal, objective tone
- 12. Flow** 20_____
 - a. Minimal clunky/awkward wording
 - b. Writing is clear & concise—not wordy
 - c. Logical flow between sentences
 - d. Transitions where appropriate
 - e. Paper reads smoothly

Comments:

_____/400

Grading Scale:
400-360 A
359-320 B
319-280 C
279-240 D
239 & □ F