

WRITING ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

Also see general guidelines for The Philosophy Essay (Appendix 2, on page 548 of your textbook).

Evaluation criteria: Examine this rubric to understand how your written work will be assessed.

Category	Level 1 50-59%	Level 2 60-69%	Level 3 70-79%	Level 4 80-100%
knowledge	Limited use of key terms. Little accuracy in treatment of topic.	Some use of key terms. Some accuracy in treatment of topic.	Appropriate use of key terms. Considerable accuracy in treatment of topic.	Proficient use of key terms. Consistent accuracy in treatment of topic.
thinking	Weak or imprecise and unclear thesis statement. Arguments and counter-arguments are seldom persuasive, reasonable, developed, and supported (few reputable sources used).	Some strength, clarity, and precision in thesis statement. Arguments and counter-arguments are somewhat reasonable, developed, and supported (some reputable sources used).	Arguable, precise, clear thesis statement. Arguments and counter-arguments are reasonable, fairly persuasive, well developed, and supported (mostly reputable sources used).	Strong, original, arguable, clear, and precise thesis statement. Arguments and counter-arguments are strongly persuasive, reasonable, fully developed, and supported (reputable sources used).
communication	Lack of clarity in introduction and conclusion. Much need for improvement in diction and use of conventions in writing (spelling, organization, paragraphing, grammar, punctuation, effective rhetorical devices, referencing).	Some clarity in introduction and conclusion. Need for improvement in diction and use of conventions in writing (spelling, organization, paragraphing, grammar, punctuation, effective rhetorical devices, referencing).	Clear introduction and conclusion. Good diction and use of conventions in writing (spelling, organization, paragraphing, grammar, punctuation, effective rhetorical devices, referencing).	Excellent introduction and conclusion. Excellent diction and mastery of conventions in writing (spelling, organization, paragraphing, grammar, punctuation, effective rhetorical devices, referencing).
application	Demonstrates little thinking and research, with few examples. Does not employ much philosophical reasoning (logical fallacies).	Demonstrates few original but some standard examples, showing some research. Attempts use of philosophical reasoning skills (logical fallacies).	Demonstrates some original and several standard examples, showing creative thinking and research. Correctly uses philosophical reasoning skills (logical fallacies).	Demonstrates original and standard examples (rich cases), showing creative thinking and research. Impressively uses philosophical reasoning skills (logical fallacies).

