

Unit Three Paper Rubric  
Humanities – Representations of Memory  
25 Points Possible

Category	5	2-4	1
<p><u>Topic / Subject</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to contain a thoughtful and insightful controlling idea that is sustained throughout the paper.</p>	<p>Topic/subject is clear and insightful. The paper exhibits one or more of the following: - a thought-provoking thesis - thesis is sustained consistently. - awareness of the larger context (the “so what”). - the student takes risks in his/her analysis.</p>	<p>Topic/subject is clear and plausible. The paper exhibits one or more of the following: - a clear thesis - thesis is sustained consistently. - analysis sometimes gestures toward the larger context.</p>	<p>Topic/subject is unclear, implausible, or does not exhibit original thinking: - the thesis is not made explicit in the course of the paper. - the thesis is not sustained consistently. - the ideas contained in the paper repeat class discussions without elaborating / expanding.</p>
<p><u>Support</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to provide support for main points with reason, explanations, and examples that are appropriate for the intended audience.</p>	<p>Support information is supportive of the topic/subject: - paraphrases are adeptly connected to the main points. - quotes are used sparingly. - support material is seamlessly integrated with student's writing - the main points are fully and convincingly supported</p>	<p>Support information may have minor weaknesses : - some attempt is made to connect source material to the main points. - overuse of quotes. - support material is integrated with student's writing. - main points are adequately supported</p>	<p>An attempt has been made to add support information, but it was unrelated or confusing: - connection between student's ideas and support material is unclear. - source materials are misused or irrelevant - source material is not integrated with student's writing.</p>
<p><u>Organization</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to be well-organized, in both overall structure and paragraphs.</p>	<p>The paper is well-structured: - the paper's form contributes to its purpose. - paragraphs are well organized. - paragraphs are carefully linked to the topic/subject. - the paper transitions seamlessly between ideas.</p>	<p>Minor lapses in organization may be present: -paragraphs are adequately organized. -paragraphs are generally linked to the topic/subject. - the paper transitions between ideas.</p>	<p>The paper is poorly structured: -organizational flaws undermine its effectiveness. -paragraphs are not well organized, nor are they linked to the topic/subject. - the paper lacks transitions between ideas.</p>
	4	2-3	1
<p><u>Research</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to utilize</p>	<p>Research materials - are fully related to the essay topic - add a new dimension or</p>	<p>Research materials - relate to the essay topic - reinforce other perspectives or dimensions of the topic</p>	<p>Research materials - are unrelated to the essay topic - are repetitive of other perspectives - may detract from the student's credibility</p>

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independent research.	perspective to the topic - enhance the student's credibility	- do not detract from the student's credibility	
<u>Style</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to be stylistically effective. That is, to contain well structured sentences, well chosen words, and an appropriate tone, as a means of achieving its purpose.	The style enhances the paper's effectiveness and supports its purpose: - fluid sentence structures and creative word choices. -tone appropriate to an academic audience. - the student's voice is present. -an interesting title that reflects the topic. -engaging introduction and conclusion.	The style contributes to the paper's effectiveness and adequately supports its purpose: - correct sentence structures and appropriate word choices. - tone appropriate to an academic audience. - title reflects the topic. - engaging introduction or conclusion.	The style detracts from the paper's effectiveness or is inappropriate to its purpose: -poor sentence structure and/or word choice. -tone is inappropriate to an academic audience. -the title does not reflect the topic. -weak introduction and/or conclusion.
	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<u>MLA Format</u> Essays written in an academic context are generally expected to follow one of three major formatting conventions: APA, MLA, or CMS.	The paper is written according to the Modern Language Association's guidelines and includes a works cited list.	The paper has minor lapses in MLA format: -formatting. -in-text citations. -works cited list.	The paper does not follow the MLA formatting guidelines.