

Basic Advanced Placement Essay Scoring Rubric

Score = Grade	Descriptive Explanation
9 100	Meets the criteria for 8 papers and, in addition, are especially sophisticated in their explanation and argument or demonstrates particularly impressive control of language.
8 95	Responds to the prompt effectively. They identify what the writer believes to be the author's most compelling observation, effectively argues the extent to which that observation hold true, and supports the argument with appropriate evidence. The prose demonstrates an ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing but is not necessarily flawless.
7 90	Fits the description of 6 papers but provides a more complete explanation and argument or demonstrates a more mature prose style.
6 85	Responds to the prompt adequately. They identify what the writer believes to be the author's most compelling observation, adequately argues the extent to which that observation holds true, and supports the argument with appropriate evidence. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but generally the prose is clear.
5 80	Identifies the author's most compelling observation, argues the extent to which that observation holds true, and supports the argument with appropriate evidence. These papers may, however, provide uneven, inconsistent, or limited explanations, arguments, and/or evidence. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but it usually conveys the writer's ideas.
4 75	Responds to the prompt inadequately. They may have difficulty identifying what the writer believes to be the author's most compelling observation or arguing the extent to which that observation holds true, and the evidence used may be insufficient. The prose generally conveys the writer's ideas but may suggest immature control of writing.
3 70	Meets the criteria for a score of 4 but demonstrates less success in identifying what the writer believes to be the author's most compelling observation, arguing the extent to which that observation holds true, and supporting the argument with appropriate evidence. The papers may show less control of writing.
2 65	Demonstrates little success in identifying what the writer

believes to be the author's most compelling observation, arguing the extent to which that observation holds true, and supporting the argument with appropriate evidence. These papers may misunderstand the prompt; fail to identify the author's most compelling observation, argue the extent to which that observation holds true, and supports the argument with appropriate evidence; or substitute a simpler task by responding to the prompt tangentially with unrelated, inaccurate, or inappropriate explanation, arguments, and /or evidence. The prose often demonstrates consistent weaknesses in writing.

1	60	Papers earning a score of 1 meets the criteria for a score of 2 but are undeveloped, especially simplistic in their explanation, argument, and /or evidence or weak in their control of language.
0	55	Indicates an on-topic response that merely repeats the prompt or is completely off the prompt.

- + is an additional 2 or 3 points
- is a reduction of 2 or 3 points

Ex. 7+ would be about a 92 or 93 6 - would be a 82 or 83

FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION:

Any essay receiving a score of 2 or below must be re-done for a passing score of 3 or higher.