

Content

grade	criteria	approximate grade
5	outstanding explanation with superior supporting information; unusual insights and flashes of brilliance; creative and original analyses and thoughts; goes well beyond minimum required for assignment.	98 (A ⁺)
4	good solid job on explanation, with excellent support from examples, data, figures, etc.; excellent reasoning, or excellent explanations; goes beyond the minimum required for the assignment.	88 (B ⁺)
3	satisfactory job; does what the assignment asks; decent reasoning or explanations; satisfactory support by data, examples, figures, etc.	78 (C ⁺)
2	decent explanation but too general or some inaccuracies or flaws in reasoning or coverage is accurate but cursory and does not meet the minimum required for a complete answer or inadequate support of assertions with data and/or examples.	68 (D ⁺)
1	doesn't effectively address assignment; fails to support assertions with data or examples; unclear explanations; inadequate understanding; major flaws in reasoning or explanations.	58 (F)
no credit	answer missing or does not answer the question.	0

Writing

grade	criteria	approximate grade
5	meets criteria for 4, but also has a sense of style, going beyond grammatical correctness to real readability.	98
4	excellent paper/paragraph organization, interesting sentences, good grammar, very few spelling errors, does not read like a first draft.	88
3	decent organization; serviceable prose; reads like a first draft; a paper with excellent writing will still earn a 3 if it contains many spelling errors and is clearly not proofread.	78
2	disorganized; awkward sentence structure; poor grammar; poor spelling.	68
1	similar problems to 2s, but worse.	58