Essay Rubric

The "A" Essay
1. Originality of thought and effectiveness of expression
2. Logical development of a central idea (thesis)
3. Effective organization of the whole essay
4. Support of central idea (thesis) clearly and correctly illustrated
5. Sentences and paragraphs mature in construction and organization
6. Word choice is precise, purposeful, and polished
7. No major deficiencies in spelling, punctuation, structure, documentation, and usage

The "B" Essay
1. Logical development of a central idea (thesis)
2. Effective organization of the whole essay
3. Adequate support of central idea (thesis)
4. Sentences/paragraphs logically constructed and organized
5. Diction appropriate and lively
6. No gross errors in spelling, punctuation, structure, documentation, and usage.

The "C" Essay
1. Develops a central idea (thesis) with fair and reasonable support
2. Organization of the whole is acceptable.
3. Sentences and paragraphs satisfactorily constructed and organized.
4. Diction is fairly appropriate and effective.
5. Gross errors in spelling, punctuation, structure, documentation, and usage are not excessive.

The "D" Essay (Characterized by ONE of the following)
1. Failure to present logical development of a central idea (thesis)
2. Poor organization of the whole essay
3. Lack of maturity and clarity in sentence structure and paragraph organization
4. Lame and ineffective diction
5. Errors frequently interfere with the writer's ability to communicate the purpose
6. Gross errors in spelling, punctuation, structure, documentation, or usage
7. Failure to meet a guideline of the specific assignment

The "F" Essay (Characterized by ANY NUMBER of the following)
1. Failure to develop a central idea (thesis)
2. Organization of the whole essay lacking
3. Sentences and paragraphs poorly constructed and organized
4. Diction inappropriate and ineffective
5. Ideas vaguely worded, incoherent, rambling, or superficial
6. Excessive errors in spelling, punctuation, structure, documentation, or usage
7. Failure to meet major guidelines of the specific assignment

*Use your handbook, textbook companion website, etc. to study these grammar/mechanics/punctuation issues: