

Unit Three Paper Rubric  
Humanities – Representations of Memory  
Student \_\_\_\_\_

Category	4	2-3	1	Score
<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.	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.	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.	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.	
<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.	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	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	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.	
<u>Organization</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to be well-organized, in both overall structure and paragraphs.	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.	Minor lapses in organization may be present: -paragraphs are adequately organized. -paragraphs are generally linked to the topic/subject. - the paper transitions between ideas.	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.	
	3	2	1	
<u>Research</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to utilize	Research materials - are fully related to the essay topic - add a new dimension or	Research materials - relate to the essay topic - reinforce other perspectives or dimensions of the topic	Research materials - are unrelated to the essay topic - are repetitive of other perspectives - may detract from the student's	

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independent research.	perspective to the topic - enhance the student's credibility	- do not detract from the student's credibility	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 MLA conventions.	
Paper Total			<b>20 points possible</b>	
Preparatory Activities Total			<b>5 points possible</b>	
<b>Total Unit One</b>			25 points possible	
<b>Comments:</b>				