

FIGURE 1: USAD ESSAY RUBRIC

Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Select one performance category in Table A. Within the range of points for that category, record the points scored on the line provided at the bottom of the Table.

**A. FOCUS/SCOPE – ORGANIZATION – CONTENT/DEVELOPMENT**

Addresses the prompt in an outstanding manner; responds to all aspects of the task; is organized clearly and consistently based on a strong central purpose; provides substantial and specific evidence to support major positions	<b>OUTSTANDING</b> 85 – 100 pts.
Addresses the prompt in an effective manner; responds to several aspects of the task; is organized effectively based on a clear central purpose; provides appropriate evidence to support positions	<b>EXCELLENT</b> 70 – 84 pts.
Addresses the prompt in an adequate manner; focuses on a minor aspect of the task; is organized based on a restatement of the prompt; provides some predictable evidence to support positions	<b>GOOD</b> 55 – 69 pts.
Addresses the prompt in a basic manner; is organized in a limited way; provides evidence that is general or not clearly linked to a position	<b>FAIR</b> 40 – 54 pts.
Addresses the prompt in a limited manner; is organized in a confused way; provides superficial evidence with inadequate elaboration	<b>WEAK</b> 15 – 39 pts.
Fails to address the prompt; absence of organization; absence of relevant content	<b>POOR</b> 0 – 14 pts.

Total for A \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Select one performance category in Table B. Within the range of points for that category, record the points scored on the line provided at the bottom of the Table.

**B. LANGUAGE/STYLE - CONVENTIONS**

Demonstrates exceptional control of sentence structure and precise word choice; is almost entirely free of errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics	<b>OUTSTANDING</b> 85 – 100 pts.
Demonstrates strong control of sentence structure and appropriate word choice; is generally free of errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics	<b>EXCELLENT</b> 70 – 84 pts.
Demonstrates reasonable control of sentence structure and some precision in word choice; contains confusing errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics	<b>GOOD</b> 55 – 69 pts.
Demonstrates some lack of control of sentence structure; limited in word choice; minimal control of grammar, usage, and mechanics	<b>FAIR</b> 40 – 54 pts.
Demonstrates some lack of control of sentence structure; minimal variety in word choice; minimal control of grammar, usage, and mechanics	<b>WEAK</b> 15 – 39 pts.
Minimal control of sentence structure; inappropriate word choice; contains serious errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics	<b>POOR</b> 0 – 14 pts.

Total for B \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Off Prompt: (OP)</b> Prompt is not addressed</p> <p><b>OP = Zero Score</b></p>	<p><b>Nonscorable: (NS)</b> <b>Essay is:</b> <i>illegible</i> <i>insufficient</i> a blank paper</p> <p><b>NS = Zero Score</b></p>	<p><b>For event coordinator’s use only.</b></p> <p>Total points for A _____ X 8 = _____</p> <p>Total points for B _____ X 2 = _____</p> <p><b>TOTAL</b> _____</p>
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