

WRITER'S NOTEBOOK

Advanced Composition (W131)

Holistic Rubric Scale:

5

Writer's Notebook entries earning a score of **5** are excellent in overall quality. Neatly and accurately organized, they contain all assignments—numbered and labeled. Development is substantial in content and mature in style, demonstrating clear effect to advance composition skills. 5 Writer's Notebooks clearly demonstrate significant understanding of the nature of the prompt or task. Regarding the *Journals*: Writing is clearly structured, with a direct statement of main idea. Overall, the response is mature in style and content and the analysis rich with insight and understanding. Response is thorough and fully developed, perhaps even exceeding minimal assignment. Ideas are supported with sufficient detail and specific references to the text that are accurate and directly related to the main idea. Support (either direct quotations or paraphrase/examples, etc.) is present and thoughtfully selected. Documentation, as needed, is present and correct. Writing style is lively and appealing. Word choice is precise, accurate, and appropriate. Writing is standard, edited English. Present tense (voice) is maintained, as appropriate. The writer appears to have engaged in the critical-thinking process. **For items labeled as a Single-Draft Essay, the suggested length of each Writer's Notebook entry is AT LEAST THREE FULL PAGES. For some entries, this suggestion may not work, so all entries will be judged on completeness, thoroughness, and development of the idea using a length that is appropriate to the needs of the piece, otherwise; Time and Effort have clearly been put into the crafting and refinement of each piece.**

4

Writer's Notebook entries earning a score of **4** are fair in overall quality. Neatly and accurately organized, they contain all assignments—numbered and labeled. Most individual entries are substantial in content, although development is not consistent throughout entire Writer's Notebook. 4 Writer's Notebooks effectively complete the task of each entry, showing some insights but usually with less precision and clarity than the higher-scoring journals. Regarding the *Journals*: Contains a clear focus, but it may be weakened by inaccuracies. Analysis is still the focus, but it is mixed with retelling. Response may be unevenly developed and/or unsubstantial and thin at times. Some observations made may be obvious instead of deeply insightful, or the observations may not be as fully substantiated as those of higher scoring journals. Use of passages/examples and/or documentation may be effectively, but at times insufficient or inaccurate. Writing may be unevenly structured, with less obvious order and transitions. The journal may be generally well-written but undistinguished in style. There may be lapses in correct diction or clarity in articulation. Overall, the writing is mostly standard in style and/or content, with much evidence of the critical-thinking process. **For items labeled as a Single-Draft Essay, the suggested length of each Writer's Notebook entry is AT LEAST TWO FULL PAGES. For some entries, this suggestion may not work, so all entries will be judged on completeness, thoroughness, and development of the idea using a length that is appropriate to the needs of the piece, otherwise; Time and Effort have been put into the crafting of each piece.**

3

Writer's Notebooks earning a score of **3** are adequate in overall quality. Accurately organized, they contain all assignments, although perhaps there may be lapses in the labeling or organization. Work is competent both in content and style. There are more strengths than weaknesses, but there may be an unevenness or quality or underdevelopment in some entries. 3 Writer's Notebooks complete the task but with no special insights. Regarding the *Journals*: The focus is on retelling, with analysis often a byproduct. They may lack depth, merely stating the obvious. Because of these weaknesses, the ideas are predictable and the responses weak. Writers do not demonstrate thorough understanding the effects of rhetorical devices. Language in the medium-score journal is usually acceptable but fairly simple, and sentences are frequently of the same length and pattern. There may be little indication that the writer has engaged in the critical-thought process, instead of merely writing whatever comes to mind. The writing tends to be formulaic or lack a strong sense of insight. This level journal suggests some effort to create an acceptable response, but the effort may seem minimal. These journals tend to be perfunctory rather than purposeful. **Journal entry is AT LEAST ONE AND A HALF PAGES, for all items labeled as a Single-Draft essay, or length is appropriate to the needs of the piece. otherwise, more depth and detail should be provided for clarity and complete understanding of the piece; more time and effort is needed with the crafting of each entry.**

2

Writer's Notebook entries earning a score of **2** are less than adequate in overall quality, weaker than 3 journals because the ideas may lack significance. Perhaps lacking in organization, they contain all or most of the assignments, although there may be lapses in numbering/labeling/etc. Suggesting the competence similar to a 3 level Writer's Notebook, strengths and weaknesses tend to be evenly balanced. Several of the entries may be too brief or underdeveloped. Regarding the *Journals*: There is some evidence of the writer's ability to analyze and use language effectively, but it may be offset by recurring problems in either or both content and style. They may inadequately respond to an entry's task, with the focus mainly on retelling. They may make assertions without supporting them with substantial evidence. They may pay little attention to rhetorical devices. They may suggest immature understanding or writing ability. These entries show little insight of analysis or attention to the critical-thinking process. **Length is lacking for an assignment worth 20% of student grade; entry appears rushed, unplanned, or demonstrates that little effort or time has been applied to the crafting of the entry.**

1

Writer's Notebook entries earning a score of **1** are below average in overall quality. Organization and accurate labeling of entries may be seriously remiss. Work does not suggest the writing competence that a 2 level journal does. Weaknesses clearly predominate over strengths, and there is little evidence of skills advancement. Many entries may be either short and underdeveloped or abstract and vague. Regarding the *Journals*: Writing may be clear, focused, and error-free, but it is usually thin in substance and undistinguished in style. They demonstrate little success and/or minimal understanding of the entry's focus. Perhaps the writer rarely has original insights, relying instead on formulas and clichés. There is little evidence of the writer's ability to analyze. Perhaps unfinished, they have little development and little clarity. Often little or no evidence is offered as a basis for the writer's ideas. Incorrect assertions may be made. The prose of 1 journal entries often reveals consistent weaknesses in writing, a lack of organization, grammatical problems and/or control. The few strengths of a level 1 journal are more than overbalanced by significant weaknesses. **Length is lacking for an assignment worth 20% of student grade; entry minimally demonstrates effort, thought, development, or intention.**

Entry #

Description/Focus

- _____1) Grammar & Style
- _____2) Brainstorming and Craft Section **x 5**
- _____3) Journal #1
- _____4) Journal #2
- _____5) Journal #3
- _____6) Journal #4
- _____7) Journal #5
- _____8) Journal #6

A+	100	5+	60
A	96	5	57
A-	92	5-	55
B+	89	4+	53
B	86	4	51
B-	82	4-	49
C+	79	3+	47
C	76	3	45
C-	72	3-	43
D+	69	2+	41
D	66	2	39
D-	62	2-	37
D-	60	1+	36
F	55	1	33
F	50	1-	30
F	45	0	0

My Score = _____.

My Grade = _____ %

COMMENTS: