

Encomium & Vituperation Essay Rubric

Name: _____

Date of Assignment: _____

Content _____/80

Introduction (20 points)

- Does the essay begin with hyperbole? (5 points) _____
- Does the writer take a clear position with a thesis statement? _____
- Does the thesis contain at least two supporting points? (10 points) _____
- Is there a transition sentence that bridges between the introduction and the first body paragraph? (5 points) _____

Body Paragraphs (50 points)

- Do the four body paragraphs, and the information they present, clearly and strongly support the thesis? (10 points) _____
- Does the first body paragraph detail the background of the subject? _____
- Does it consider ancestors (including parents), country, or education (or, for an object, historical context)? (10 points) _____
- Does the second body paragraph describe the subject's fine or poor qualities? _____
- For encomium, does it consider personal character, abilities, or virtues (or, for an object, advantages)? For vituperation, does it consider personal character flaws, harmful attitudes, or vices (or, for an object, disadvantages)? (10 points) _____
- Does the third body paragraph describe the subject's career? _____
- For encomium, does it describe the subject's achievements or show how the subject used his or her gifts (or, for an object, how it was used) for a good cause? For vituperation, does it describe the subject's lack of worthwhile achievement or show how the subject used his or her gifts (or, for an object, how it was used) for improper purposes? Does it contain a direct quote? (10 points) _____
- Does the fourth body paragraph contrast the subject with a lesser or better person, (or object) in order to heighten the praise or criticism? (10 points) _____

Epilogue (10 points)

- Does the conclusion—the epilogue—clearly restate the thesis using different words? (10 points) _____

Style _____/20

Style (12 points)

- Are the sentences varied? (4 points) _____
- Do the paragraphs follow each other in a way that makes sense?
In other words, do they flow together? (4 points) _____
- Does the writer use strong and specific words (vocabulary)? (4 points) _____

Form (8 points)

Number of spelling, punctuation, capitalization errors _____

- 2 or fewer per page: 4 points
- 3–4 per page: 3 points
- 5–6 per page: 2 points
- More than 6 per page: 0 points

Number of sentence errors (run-ons or fragments) _____

- 1 or fewer per page: 2 points
- 2–3 per page: 1 point
- More than 3 per page: 0 points

Is the handwriting neat and legible? Or, is the paper typed according to the teacher’s requirements? _____

- Yes: 2 points
- No: 0 points

Total: _____/100