

Scholarly Works Review Form – page 1 of 3

Entry # \_\_\_\_\_ Novice Entry? \_\_\_\_\_ Comment Only? \_\_\_\_\_ Total Score:  (20)  
For Staff Use Only

Title of Entry

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Type of paper: \_\_\_\_\_ *How to/Instructional* \_\_\_\_\_ *Historical/Expository*

**Thesis/Argument (4 points):** The main idea or premise of the paper; what the paper is all about. Picking a pertinent and interesting topic is important.

- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1

**Scoring – Circle One**

- *Easily identifiable; pertinent to the study/re-creation of pre-1600 period; clear and insightful.*
- *Promising, but slightly unclear or slightly lacking in originality.*
- *Topic is unclear and/or unoriginal; provides weak framework for writing*
- *Difficult to find thesis; may be redundant or off topic entirely. Thesis is too broad, vague, or ineffectual.*

Comments

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**Organization (4 points):** How the paper is put together. Most papers have three clearly identifiable parts: introduction, body, and conclusion.

**Scoring – Circle One**

- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1

- *Smooth transitions; paper flows logically from point to point. Organization supports thesis/ argument.*
- *Clear and satisfactory. A few transitions may be less than smooth, but the organization is generally consistent.*
- *Organization supports thesis/argument.*
- *Weak transitions between subtopics/points. Wanders off topic occasionally. Organization does not support the thesis/argument.*
- *Unclear; poor transitions; few topic sentences. Few if any smooth transitions. Extremely difficult to follow logic/reasoning. Wanders off topic frequently.*

Comments

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**Mechanics (4 points):** Grammar, spelling, punctuation, and citation using one chosen style consistently (i.e., Chicago/Turabian, APA, MLA, etc.).

**Scoring – Circle One**

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|---|--|
| 4 | ▪ <i>Varied sentence structure. No grammar or spelling errors. A single citation style used correctly throughout.</i>  |
| 3 | ▪ <i>Some variation in sentence structure; 1-3 grammar errors; 1-2 spelling errors. Minor errors in citation style.</i>  |
| 2 | ▪ <i>Little variation in sentence structure; 4-5 grammar errors; 3-4 spelling errors. One or more significant citation style errors.</i>   |
| 1 | ▪ <i>Copious run-on or incomplete sentences; many spelling and grammar errors; no evidence of consistent style for citations. Excessive repetition and grammar errors interfere with reading and comprehension of writing.</i> |

**Comments**

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**Analysis and Evidence/Complexity of Research (5 points):** Analysis is how well the writer “proves” his point or explains and develops his ideas. Evidence refers to sources and examples to back up claims and arguments; evaluation of this area also includes the use of “good” sources versus “poor” ones.

**Scoring – Circle One**

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|---|---|
| 5 | ▪ <i>Has strong, well-explained examples to substantiate points. Uses both quotes and paraphrases. Has a fresh perspective on the topic. Uses quality sources.</i>  |
| 4 | ▪ <i>Points generally well-substantiated. Uses both quotes and paraphrases. Moderate level of new analysis on the topic. Sources are generally acceptable.</i>  |
| 3 | ▪ <i>Most points substantiated. Uses both quotes and paraphrases. Sources are generally acceptable. Small amounts of new analysis.</i>  |
| 2 | ▪ <i>Only some points supported. Relies excessively on direct quotes. Some sources questionable. Analysis is not particularly new or fresh.</i>   |
| 1 | ▪ <i>Weak attempt to relate evidence to points. Sources are inappropriate for topic. No sources listed for direct quotes. Lack of citations (footnotes, endnotes, parenthetical notes). Sources are inapplicable or contain overly vague information.</i> |

**Comments**

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**Style (3 points):** Style is admittedly subjective. It is that instinctual flow and creative knack that makes a written document memorable and pleasurable to read. It also includes word choices that are unique and non-repetitive.

**Scoring – Circle One**

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|----------|---|
| <b>3</b> | ▪ <i>Engaging and creative. The writer makes the paper particularly interesting and enjoyable to read.</i>  |
| <b>2</b> | ▪ <i>Paper is adequate but nothing about the style makes the document stand out to the reader.</i>  |
| <b>1</b> | ▪ <i>Minimal or unsuccessful attempts to make the paper stylish or creative. Prose lacks personality/liveliness. Style is flat. It requires an effort for the reader to finish or comprehend the paper.</i> |

**Comments**

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**Additional Comments or Notes:**

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**Judges signatures and contact information (required)**

**Sign:**

**Print:**

**Contact Info/email:**

Sign:	Print:	Contact Info/email:

**Entrant Comments:**

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**Entrant Signature (if face-to-face judging used or as applicable):**

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