

**ACADEMICS**  
**Creative Writing: Poetry**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ *Time Limit: Two hours*

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Middle School  Senior High (Check one)

*Middle School Grade Level:* \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS
<b>ORIGINALITY, CONTENT and COMMUNICATION:</b> a) Does the poem approach the topic creatively and capture the reader's interest? (20 points) b) Is the poem well organized so that the thoughts progress clearly and logically? (20 points) c) Is the theme or main idea well-integrated throughout the poem? (5 points) d) Is the word choice precise and free of cliches? (5 points) e) Is the viewpoint consistent throughout? (5 points) f) Is the reader left with a "finished" feeling? (5 points)		(60 pts.)
<b>STRUCTURE and DEVICES:</b> a) If the poem is rhymed, is the rhyme scheme correct and consistent? Does the poem employ sound devices (alliteration, consonance, onomatopoeia, etc.) to provide aural appeal? (10 points) b) If the poem is metered, is the meter consistent and appropriate? If there is no meter, does the phrasing possess a rhythmic flow to distinguish it from prose? (10 points) c) Is the poem infused with imagery—specific sensory impressions—rather than broad generalities? (5 points) d) Visual appearance: skip lines between stanzas; if poem is in couplets, there should be 2 lines of verse, then a blank line; if it uses stanzas of 4 lines, there should be a blank line between stanzas. (5 points)		(30 pts.)
<b>WRITING MECHANICS:</b> a) Are spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and tense correct? (5 points) OR is consistency shown in breaking the rules? b) Is page placement and spacing on electronic document visually pleasing? (5 points)		(10 pts.)

**POINT SCALE (20 possible)**

17-20 . . . . . Excellent, Superior  
 13-16 . . . . . Good, Above Average  
 9-12 . . . . . Fair, Average  
 1-8 . . . . . Poor

**POINT SCALE (5 possible)**

5 . . . . . Excellent, Superior  
 4 . . . . . Good, Above Average  
 3 . . . . . Fair, Average  
 1-2 . . . . . Poor

**POINT SCALE (10 possible)**

9-10 . . . . . Excellent, Superior  
 7-8 . . . . . Good, Above Average  
 5-6 . . . . . Fair, Average  
 1-4 . . . . . Poor

**POINT TOTALS**

100-92 . . . . . 1 Rating  
 91-72 . . . . . 2 Rating  
 71-52 . . . . . 3 Rating  
 51-below . . . . . 4 Rating

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature

## ACADEMICS

### Expository Writing: Essay

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ *Time Limit: Two hours*

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Middle School  Senior High (Check one) *Middle School Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_*

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS
<b>CONTENT:</b> a) Does the composition have a strong thesis statement? (5 points) b) Does it contain logical arguments in support of the thesis? (20 points) c) Are there sufficient supporting details? (20 points) d) Does the writer avoid emotional appeals? (5 points)		(50 pts.)
<b>ORGANIZATION:</b> a) Does the essay have an effective introduction that prepares the reader for the thesis? (5 points) b) Is there logical paragraphing with strong topic sentences? (5 points) c) Is there a logical progression of ideas and effective transitions? (5 points) d) Does the conclusion provide a sense of closure for the argument? (5 points)		(20 pts.)
<b>STYLE:</b> a) Are the writer's vocabulary and word usage effective? (5 points) b) Is the sentence structure varied and correct (subject/verb agreement, etc.)? (5 points) c) Does the writer demonstrate creativity in addressing the subject? (5 points) d) Are there original, insightful ideas that demonstrate complexity of thought? (5 points)		(20 pts.)
<b>WRITING MECHANICS:</b> a) Are spelling and punctuation correct? (3 points) b) Is the grammar correct? (4 points) c) Is page placement and spacing on electronic document visually pleasing? (3 points)		(10 pts.)

**POINT SCALE (20 possible)**  
 17-20 . . . . . Excellent, Superior  
 13-16 . . . . . Good, Above Average  
 9-12 . . . . . Fair, Average  
 1-8 . . . . . Poor

**POINT SCALE (5 possible)**  
 5 . . . . . Excellent, Superior  
 4 . . . . . Good, Above Average  
 3 . . . . . Fair, Average  
 1-2 . . . . . Poor

**POINT SCALE (10 possible)**  
 9-10 . . . . . Excellent, Superior  
 7-8 . . . . . Good, Above Average  
 5-6 . . . . . Fair, Average  
 1-4 . . . . . Poor

**POINT TOTALS**  
 100-92 . . . . . 1 Rating  
 91-72 . . . . . 2 Rating  
 71-52 . . . . . 3 Rating  
 51-below . . . . . 4 Rating

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature