

SAHLI ESSAY SCORING GUIDE

This guide is just a guide to Sahli essay scoring. Keep it and refer to it periodically. It also may change as situations demand.

TOP SCORE

- The top score is a word choice and punctuation score.
- This score is usually out of 15.
- Every error counts for .5 points off of 15
- Top score must be edited for half points back. No edit=0 on paper
- Edit errors directly on the page. DO NOT reprint

EDITING MARKS ON PAPER

- An X in the margin represents a punctuation error in that line of text.
- If there is more than one X, there is more than one error.
- Circles, parenthesis, underlines all represent word choice errors.
- All of these errors MUST be edited for writer to receive credit on paper.
- DO NOT reprint the paper
- Fix errors directly on the paper with a different colored pen/pencil

BOTTOM SCORE

- Bottom score is usually out of 50
- Bottom score is organization, development, ideas and knowledge
- Bottom score cannot be edited

COMMON ERRORS

- Introductory clauses. Sentences that begin with WHEN or IF or other subordination adverbs will usually need a comma after the whole clause.
- If you begin the sentence with “when”, you do not need a “then” after that clause.
- Do not write “so that” when just the conjunction “so” will work.
- Pronoun agreement. The pronoun “one” is singular. Do not refer back to that pronoun with “they”
- “Many people in the world?” Where else would they be?
- “In order to” Stop it.
- People will be referred to as “who” Not “that”
- Definitely or defiantly? Darn spell check Granted or Granite? Darn spell check
- Semi colons separate complete clauses. If it is a complete idea and another complete idea, writers will need to separate with a semi colon (;)
- “on how” “on what” Bad construction Stop doing this
- A sentence will not start with “how”
- MULE RULES
 - You or any you’re
 - Starting sentences with “there” “this”