

Marcus' Personal Essay Rubric

I'll rate these on a scale of 1 to 10 when I hand back your draft with comments

___ Truth and weight – Have you found something important, revealing, and personally meaningful to write about?

___ Organization – Is your essay well-organized, with clear introduction, topic sentences, natural transitions, and a conclusion that ties back to the beginning in an original and memorable way?

___ Vivid description – Does the essay use descriptive details that allow the reader to experience what you're talking about through their senses, including dialogue, emotion, and examples.

___ Voice – Is the rhythm, tone, and voice of the essay distinctive and entertaining with varied sentence structure and strong nouns and verbs free of equivocation? Does the essay avoid the passive voice, clichés, and overly broad and vague statements?

___ Mechanics - Is the essay free of errors in grammar and punctuation, especially fragments and fused sentences, missing commas or comma splices, and misspellings.

Comments: