Biology Writing Assignment Grading Chart

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1) Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2) Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_3) Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You are assigned three writing assignments to complete this semester. These essays will be your evaluation of a recent article in the newspaper or on the Internet concerning a topic we are covering in class.

1. Find a current topic in the news that relates to what we are discussing in class.
2. Write about 2 page of analysis on your article following the chart below using 5-paragraph form:

*Introductory paragraph*

A. Catches the reader's interest

B. Gives brief background on your topic

C. Begins or ends with the [thesis statement](http://www.sheboyganfalls.k12.wi.us/staff/dehogue/FSSH/thesis.htm)

*Body (paragraphs 2, 3, & 4)*

A. Develops, expands, and/or supports the thesis statement

B. Includes a [topic sentence](http://www.sheboyganfalls.k12.wi.us/staff/dehogue/FSSH/parag.htm) for each paragraph

C. Includes supporting details which reinforce the topic sentence.

D. Make sure you explain how it relates to class

*Concluding paragraph*

A. Restates the thesis or sums up the argument.

B. Tells the reader what you think is important to remember

C. Never introduce new information in the conclusion

\*\* These are due the lecture day before the lecture exam, yet you can turn it in any time before then.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Points | 5 – Great! | 4 – Good | 3 – Okay | 2 – Not okay | 0 |
| Relevance Article | Specifically about application of a class topic and well tied to class | Inaccurate data or analysis | General topic of class or not tied to class | General topic & not tied to class | Not relevant, no analysis |
| Current Article | Daily publications article from this month | Article from monthly magazine | Article from last month | Article from last semester | Article from past year |
| Paragraph Structure | Topic statement first, strong intro & conclusion | Good topic statement, new data mid-way | Missing intro or conclusion paragraph | No obvious paragraph topic | No intro, conclusion or topics |
| Summary of Information | Presented:  Summary of data  Named researchers  Goals of projects, Relevance of information | Missing one of the previous items | Missing two of the previous items | Missing three of the previous items | Missing all of the previous items |
| Followed Directions | 5 paragraph form, article analysis, good paragraph & sentence structure, no misspelling or grammatical errors | Not 5 paragraph form, but good analysis | Followed directions, but hard to follow essay | Not correct form or analysis but no errors | Poor paragraph or sentence structure, misspellings |

Overall Point Total

Total Points \_\_\_\_\_\_/25 Total Points \_\_\_\_\_\_/25 Total Points \_\_\_\_\_\_/25

Comments:

\*\* Turn in this exact sheet with each essay