**A Bug’s Life Essay Rubric**

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| **Criteria** | **Exceeds Standards**  **(93%-100 %)** | **Meets Standards**  **(85%-92%)** | **Approaching Standards**  **(70-84%)** | **Far Below Standards**  **(69% and below)** |
| Ideas/Content  /10 | -Your essay clearly and strongly answered the prompt  -You have a strong, clear and well-written thesis statement  -Your ideas are WELL THOUGHT OUT and CLEARLY EXPRESSED. You included WELL-CHOSEN, SPECIFIC TEXTUAL EVIDENCE to support your idea(s).  -You made strong connections to scripture and other relevant resources as it pertains to the prompt  -Your ideas are logically and very well organized, with transitions that seamlessly lead from one idea to the next | -Your ideas are mostly clear but some sentences are awkward so that the awkwardness gets in the way of your clarity.  -You have a clear thesis statement  -You answered the question. You included textual evidence, but the evidence could have been stronger, or you didn’t clearly make a connection between your textual evidence and your ideas.  -You made a few connections to scripture and other relevant resources, however the connections to the prompt were somewhat vague or could use further elaboration  -Your ideas were fairly logical and organized. Some transitions helped lead from one idea to the next. However transitions could be more effective. | -You answered the question but after several days of working on this, I have trouble seeing evidence of your learning according to the standards.  -You may have a thesis statement, but it is unclear and your essay strays from it often or it does not match up with the rest of your essay  -More specific information is needed, either in the form of textual evidence, your explanation of the evidence, or both. Sentences are awkward or you are missing sentences so that your ideas are not very clear. The lack of clarity makes it hard to assess whether you learned the standards and/or answered the prompt.  -I found myself guessing at what you meant often and trying to fill in the blanks myself  -Your ideas were sometimes disorganized and scattered. There are few to no transitions, which makes it hard to see the connections between ideas. | -Your essay does not quite answer the prompt  -There is no thesis statement  -There is no clear or specific explanation in answer to the question. You have no evidence at all, or what you do have is completely unrelated to the question. You did not answer the question.  -Ideas are disorganized and confusing  -There are no transitions or connections made between ideas. |
| Integration of Evidence (quotes and examples)    /10 | -Quotes/evidence/examples are seamlessly and effectively incorporated.  -There is a strong lead-in, which gives the reader important essential information (where, when, who)  -There is a strong incorporation of the quote/evidence/example, and a very strong and well-defined explanation that follows.  -Follows correct MLA format.  -Evidence is an effective and integral part of the essay  -Evidences are relevant and clearly connects to the point | -Quotes/evidence/examples are mostly well incorporated  -There is a lead in, which gives some information about the evidence  -The evidence is incorporated thereafter, and followed by an explanation  -Attempts to follow correct MLA format  -Evidence is mostly effective  -Evidences are fairly relevant, though the connections to the main point aren’t completely clear | -Attempts to incorporate quotes/evidences/examples into essay, but they seem to stand alone or float  -Any of the following elements of integration might often be missing: lead-in, quote/example/paraphrase, or explanation.  -Evidences chosen aren’t always the best or most effective. They are somewhat irrelevant and connections to main point are often unclear or confusing.  -Some formatting issues | -Quotes/evidence/examples are not incorporated into the essay at all.  They are floating and “randomly thrown in”  -The following elements of integration are starkly missing: lead-in, quote/example/paraphrase, explanation  -Evidences are ineffective and poorly chosen  -There are no connections made to the main point  -Follows no formatting principles |
| Language Conventions    /10 | -Demonstrates consistently proper, correct grammar, spelling  -Writing is exceptionally well written | -Writing is clear with mostly proper and correct grammar and spelling  -Writing is fairly fluent and clear | -Essay contains some errors in grammar and spelling  -Writing can sometimes be confusing and somewhat fluent | -There are several errors in grammar and spelling  -Writing is unclear and vague |