

Writing Quality Rubric

Level → Criteria↓	Below Basic __ points	Basic __ points	Proficient __ points	Advanced __ points
APA Style 6 th Edition (see publication manual)	More than 10 style errors	Between 6 and 10 instances of style errors	5 or fewer instances of style errors	Model document of APA 6 th edition: Correct punctuation, citation, tables, figures, format of each reference, capitalization, use of italics, abbreviations, headings, quotations, numbers/stats, etc.
Reference Choices	Less than 50% of references are advanced references.	50% or more of the references are advanced references	75% or more of the references are from top-tier journals, peer-reviewed journals, reputable publishers, key document/studies/researchers, etc. (advanced references)	90% or more of the references are from top-tier journals, peer-reviewed journals, reputable publishers, key document/studies/researchers, etc. Does not rely on less-known works for key arguments.
Format	Does not use a comparable format to the template. If no template was requested more than 6 errors in APA manuscript format were evident.	Uses a similar format to the template but is missing components. If no template was requested APA manuscript format was used with 4 to 6 errors.	Uses a similar format to the template. If no template was requested APA manuscript format was used with 1 to 3 errors.	Model document uses the requested template or mimics it exceptionally. If no template was requested APA manuscript format was used without error including margins, page numbers, indentation, spacing, supplemental pages (title page, abstract, references, appendices, etc.), etc.
Flow	Any of the following are missing: introductions, conclusions, and/or transitions.	Includes introductions and conclusions that are weak but attempted. Transitions are weak but attempted.	Includes introductions and conclusions. Transitions are weak but attempted.	Model document includes introductions, conclusions, and transitions well to cue the reader.

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Tone	Tone does not fit the audience. Language and vocabulary are inappropriate for the expected audience.	Evidence of the correct tone for the intended audience is evident but not consistent throughout the document. Vocabulary is inconsistent and/or occasionally inappropriate for intended audience.	Has tone appropriate for audience as deemed by the assignment description; however instances of inappropriate vocabulary (jargon, acronyms, etc.) are used based on the intended audience.	Model document has tone appropriate for the intended audience as deemed by the assignment description; language/vocabulary choices fit expectations of reader knowledge.
Content	Inaccurate content appears in the document; or one or more arguments/key claims are not supported by references or evidence; or non-contributing content is in excess causing reader confusion.	Accurate content; one or more arguments/key claims are not supported by references or evidence; or non-contributing content is limiting communication of the argument.	Accurate content; arguments and key claims are supported by references or evidence; however some non-contributing content is evident.	Accurate content; arguments and key claims are supported by references or evidence; content appropriate for the assignment; free of non-contributing content.
Peer-Reviewed	The document was clearly not reviewed by a peer or a peer-equivalent.	5-10 errors in the above criteria appear in the document. Evidence suggests that the document may have not been peer-reviewed.	1-5 errors in the above criteria appear in the document. Evidence suggests that the document was peer-reviewed.	Model document is free of errors from the above criteria. Paper appears to have been reviewed by a colleague for all the criteria listed above.
TOTAL POINTS				__ points out of __ total possible points