

Essay #1 Rubric (see my in-text comments for more information):**Audience Awareness—** _____ / 3

- *story makes sense to layperson
- *sufficient explanation/background given

Tone— _____ / 3

- *appropriate to purpose
- *appropriate for audience
- *engages and interests the reader, especially in the beginning
- *implicitly, but not overtly, persuasive
- *focus is on telling a story
- *relatable, real voice to the storyteller
- *may or may not be more casual than the usual college writing
- *may or may not include slang

Organization— _____ / 5

- *Thesis: focused, presented early on, foreshadows the essay
- *Paragraphs: each paragraph focused on one main point
- *Introduction: grabs the reader, interesting
- *Conclusion: sums up all points, leaves lasting impression on reader
- *Logic: all paragraphs logically connect to and support the thesis and each other

Narrative— _____ / 5

- *vivid, sensory details which allow readers to picture the event
- *realistic, relatable characters in the story
- *written in first person
- *(option) identification of a dilemma, description of motivation to change/solve dilemma

Use of Examples— _____ / 2

- *reliance on examples, rather than abstract discussion, identification, or analysis—*the majority of the essay should be a story, with the analysis being secondary*
- *(option) if citations are used, they do not impede the storytelling or the narrative tone

Mechanics— _____ / 2

- *grammar, spelling, MLA format, punctuation—these do not impede understanding of essay

TOTAL— _____ / 20 =