Non-Research Essay Rubric

Format (6 points, or 6%)

1. There is a complete typed heading with only the student’s name, the instructor’s name, the name of

the course, and the due date. (Each highlighted item is missing.) \_\_\_\_/1

1. The information in the heading appears in the correct order. \_\_\_\_/1
2. The heading appears in the correct place on the first page and only on that page. \_\_\_\_/1
3. In the upper right-hand corner of each page, there is only the student’s typed last name followed by

the correct typed page number. \_\_\_\_/1

1. There is a creative and typed title for the essay. \_\_\_\_/1
2. The contents of the essay are double-spaced. \_\_\_\_/1

Introduction (9 points, or 9%)

1. It identifies the complete subject of the essay. \_\_\_\_/3
2. It is of the appropriate length. \_\_\_\_/3
3. It has an effectively placed thesis sentence. \_\_\_\_/3

Thesis Sentence (12 points, or 12%)

1. It states the complete subject of the essay. \_\_\_\_/4
2. It states a single point about the subject. \_\_\_\_/4
3. It is stated in only one or two complete sentences. \_\_\_\_/4

Developmental Paragraphs (47 points, or 47%)

1. Each developmental paragraph has a topic sentence. \_\_\_\_/3

A developmental paragraph with the words “no topic sentence” next to it indicates a paragraph without a topic sentence.

1. Each topic sentence is effectively placed. \_\_\_\_/3

A developmental paragraph with the words “misplaced topic sentence” next to it has an ineffectively placed topic sentence.

1. Each topic sentence states the complete subject of its respective paragraph. \_\_\_\_/3

A developmental paragraph with the words “incomplete topic sentence” next to it has a topic sentence that does not identity the complete subject.

1. The details in each one are accurate. \_\_\_\_/4
2. The details in each one are relevant. \_\_\_\_/6
3. The details in each one are specific. \_\_\_\_/6
4. Borrowed details have correctly written in-text citations and correctly written MLA Works Cited

entries. \_\_\_\_/6

1. The ideas within each one are expressed clearly. \_\_\_\_/4
2. The ideas within each one are organized effectively. \_\_\_\_/4
3. The ideas within each one are unified. \_\_\_\_/4
4. The ideas within each one have effective coherence. \_\_\_\_/4

Conclusion (6 points, or 6%)

1. It concludes the topic effectively. \_\_\_\_/3
2. It is of the appropriate length. \_\_\_\_/3

Mechanics (20 points, or 20%)

1. Grammar \_\_\_\_/7

Consult section \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on page(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in *A Pocket Style Manual* for information about

1. Punctuation \_\_\_\_/7

Consult section \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on page(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in *A Pocket Style Manual* for information about

1. Spelling (1 point deducted for each misspelled word) \_\_\_\_/6

Total points \_\_\_\_/100

Late points (if any) \_\_\_\_\_/10

Essay grade \_\_\_\_/100