

Criteria	5 Points	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Introduction	Exceptional hook; crystal-clear thesis that perfectly previews main points; demonstrates profound understanding of essay themes	Strong hook; clear thesis that effectively previews main points	Adequate hook; somewhat clear thesis that partially addresses themes	Weak hook; unclear or vague thesis	Minimal or no hook; missing or ineffective thesis
Body Paragraphs	Masterfully integrates all three themes (community service, respect, academic success); rich, specific personal examples; outstanding transitions	Clearly addresses most themes; good personal examples; smooth transitions	Addresses some themes; limited personal examples; some transitions	Minimal theme coverage; weak personal examples; disjointed transitions	Little to no thematic connection; no personal examples; no coherent transitions
Conclusion	Powerfully summarizes main points; deep personal reflection; memorable closing statement that resonates	Strong summary of points; meaningful reflection; solid closing	Adequate summary; some reflection; standard closing	Weak summary; minimal reflection; generic closing	No meaningful summary; no reflection; ineffective conclusion
Writing Style & Grammar	Exceptional grammar; sophisticated, clear personal voice; zero errors	Very clean grammar; strong personal voice; minimal errors	Acceptable grammar; somewhat clear voice; some errors	Numerous grammatical errors; unclear voice	Significant grammatical errors; incomprehensible voice
Originality & Engagement	Completely original; extraordinarily compelling narrative that deeply reveals personal values	Highly original; engaging narrative that clearly shows personal values	Somewhat original; moderately engaging narrative	Limited originality; minimal engagement	No originality; completely unengaging

Total Possible Points: 25

Scoring Guide:

- **21-25 Points: Outstanding (1st Place)**
- **16-20 Points: Excellent (2nd Place)**
- **11-15 Points: Good (3rd Place)**
- **6-10 Points: Needs Improvement**
- **0-5 Points: Significant Revision Required**

Note to Participants: Plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification. Ensure your work is 100% original and authentically represents your personal experiences and perspectives.