

2010 SCIENCE FICTION RUBRIC

	Incompetent	Novice	Learning	Competent	Master
Description	Unaware or ignorant of the standard.	Shows a pattern of error and misunderstanding.	Standard is understood but is often misapplied.	Characterizes a good example of the standard	Surpasses expectations
Thesis	No apparent thesis. Essay suffers from lack of direction.	Many potential theses present, few or none mentioned, none explicitly.	One central thesis-like idea present but not explicitly stated.	Thesis is solid but could be more clearly stated.	Clear, concise thesis with proper tone and complexity.
Topic Sentences	Essay shows no awareness of thesis, damaging essay cohesion.	A faint direction is perceptible, but topic sentence are difficult to locate.	Some connection to thesis, but consistency is still a problem.	Thesis links to paragraphs, but topic sentences are hard to locate.	Essay regularly touches back on thesis.
Essay-Level Development	Doesn't have a direction or lead to any conclusion	Breaks down every few paragraphs. Information is scattered.	Essay coherent but overall direction isn't always clear.	Ideas build on one another. Conclusion is reasonable.	Essay arrives at a logical but surprising conclusion.
Paragraph Development	Paragraphs lack overall coherence. No logical pattern can be found.	Information repeats or does not connect with other material in the paragraph.	Paragraph begins okay but drifts from the topic sentence. Rough transitions.	Paragraph builds from the known to new information. Smooth transitions.	Paragraphs uniquely designed. Each sentence has clear reasoning.
Sentence Fluidity	Meaning is stifled by lack of correct or even common usage.	Comprehension demands deep attention, contains many serious grammatical issues.	Sentences are competent but lack grace and require occasional review for comprehension.	Sentences are easy to read, even when complex.	Sentence structure adds to the meaning and dimension of the argument.
Style	Prose is difficult to read, even with close attention.	Writer can not affect a voice because lack of language facility creates barriers.	Mechanics do not interfere with the voice, but nothing noteworthy in the language.	A unique voice is present in the language. Tone is appropriate for the audience.	The language is just as engaging as the argument. Moments of eloquence present.
MLA Format	Unaware of MLA format.	Many issues ignored or disregarded.	Followed basic instructions with a few errors.	Formatting errors unapparent and difficult to find.	No errors in format. Subtle details correct throughout.
Support	No support of any kind is present in the essay.	Insufficient support, and what's there is muddled with the author's prose.	Adequate support; essay could use clearer integration of borrowed material in prose.	Support is informative and well-integrated into the writing.	Unexpected delights in the support. Clear distinction between author and borrowed materials.
Documentation	Documentation is totally unformatted, lacks any sense of consistency or pattern.	There is an awareness of the need for documentation, but chronic faults are ubiquitous.	Shows and understanding of the MLA process, but small errors persist.	Consistent use of the proper MLA format for citations, occasional lapses in the details.	Small details in the citations are correct, MLA format is transparent.
Kept To Assignment	Did not seem aware of the assignment parameters.	Has a vague notion of the assignment in general, many details missed.	Satisfied basic requirements of the assignment and not much else.	Took ownership of the requirements and tried a few new things.	Revealed a new approach to the assignment.