



Evaluation Assignment Sheet



Writing Center Hours: 8:30 AM - 8:30 PM M-Th,
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM F, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM S-S
Email: okc.tutoring@okstate.edu
Phone: 405-945-3278

Assignment:

For our first essay, you will write a categorical evaluation argument of approximately 800-1000 words (probably around 4-6 paragraphs). You should organize this argument using the revised classical structure discussed in the "Classical Argument and the Toulmin System" video.

Choosing a Topic

A categorical evaluation claim **asserts that something is a good or bad example of its kind**. This is different from an evaluation that just examines whether something is good or bad morally or whether something has good or bad effects!

You can evaluate just about anything. Just be sure you can clearly identify both **the thing you are evaluating (X)** and **the category in which the thing belongs (Y)**. Your claim should be the model "X is a good (or bad) Y." For example:

- Thing: *The Murderbot Diaries* by Martha Wells
- Category: Sci-fi novel series
- Possible claim: *The Murderbot Diaries* by Martha Wells is a good sci-fi novel series.

A few other fun categories to consider:

- Restaurants
- Hobbies
- Jobs
- Places to live
- Schools
- Products
- Media (books, movies, TV shows)
- Games
- Video games



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You are encouraged to choose a topic that won't require you to do any outside research. The more familiar you are with the thing you're evaluating, the better; you can draw your evidence from personal experience/observation. If you do end up using outside research in this essay, you should cite it in either MLA 9th edition or APA 7th edition. Do your best using the tools you have; we will delve more into citations in the next essay.

Note: It is possible that you wrote an evaluation essay for the final essay in your Comp 1 class. It is also likely that you've written other evaluation essays in the past. **This is a good place to remind you that you must write NEW work for this course; recycling work from previous classes without your instructor's express permission is considered Academic Dishonesty. See the syllabus for further details about academic dishonesty.**

Final drafts will be graded according to the following rubric*:



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Criterion	Points
The essay focuses on a clear categorical evaluation* claim that is supported by 2-4 clearly and thoroughly developed lines of reasoning and evidence, including effective responses to opposing views.	/40
The essay effectively uses a classical structure (traditional, revised, or blended).	/30
The essay is written in appropriately academic style.	/20
The author shows attention to detail, avoiding careless mistakes in grammar** or documentation***.	/20
You may earn bonus points for the following: -Creative and original topic selection -Excellent uses of rhetorical devices -A particularly strong title -Any other thing that's not required but is impressive (Total points for essay not to exceed 110)	/0
Total	/110

*Essays that bear no resemblance to the assigned genre will receive a zero.

****Essays with severe errors in grammar** – such as frequent run-on sentences, sentence fragments, or subject-verb agreement errors – will receive a zero with the option for the writer to make corrections and resubmit for partial credit; details and a deadline for re-submission will be posted in the feedback on the essay.

*****Essays with errors in documentation** that result in violations of the Academic Honesty Policy will be dealt with according to that policy as described in the syllabus.