

## 2017 Missouri Scholars Academy Rubric for Rating Student Essays

	1	2	3	4	5
Purpose	Writing lacks focus and contains little information.	Writing is inconsistent and the reader must make inferences.	Writing is generally clear but could use more detail.	Writing is clear and contains sufficient detail.	Writing is focused and contains significant detail.
	Organization lacks direction.	Organization leaves the reader struggling for direction.	Organization is adequate.	Organization guides the reader's understanding.	Organization enhances the reader's understanding.
Voice	The writer's voice is non-existent (lifeless).	The writer's voice is distanced from the text.	The writer's voice is emerging.	The writer's voice can be identified throughout the text.	The writer's voice makes a strong impression on the text.
	Word choice is incorrect or vague.	Word choice is limited.	Word choice lacks interest.	Word choice is effective.	Word choice is vivid and precise.
Conventions	There are significant issues with sentence structure (e.g. choppy, run-on, no variety, etc.).	Sentence structure reads like an early draft (e.g. irregular, repetitive, grammatical errors, etc.).	Sentences are grammatically correct but lack rhythm.	Sentences are correct and somewhat varied.	Sentences are varied and flow smoothly.
	Convention errors make the text difficult to interpret.	Convention errors distract the reader from the meaning of the text.	Convention errors seem like a rough draft.	The few convention errors do not distract from the text.	The text is carefully proofread. Convention errors are minor.

DO NOT RETURN WITH NOMINATION.