

Whale Rider Grading Rubric

Student's Name:

The document is properly formatted according to MLA style:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Yes | Essay is properly formatted according to MLA style. |
| Needs Work | There are errors in the formatting. |
| No | MLA format is not used. Formatting seems random. |

The introduction uses an appropriate introductory strategy (for example, briefly summarizing the film and explaining who the character is):

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|------------|--|
| Yes | The introduction is effective and sets up the rest of the essay well. |
| Needs Work | The introduction is incomplete. |
| No | The introduction does not clearly set up the rest of the essay; some information there may be irrelevant |

Whale Rider is properly introduced:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Yes | The introduction of the text is clear and includes all necessary information. |
| Needs Work | Some information is missing from the introduction of the text(s), is unclearly or awkwardly worded. |
| No | Text is not introduced properly. |

Includes an appropriate thesis that clearly responds to the prompt:

- | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| Yes | Thesis is strong. |
| Needs Work | Thesis is vague or insufficient. |
| No | There is no identifiable thesis. |

Thesis is supported by evidence and explanation; it is clear how the evidence presented in the body supports the thesis:

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|-----|--|
| Yes | Evidence is clearly explained and clearly related to the thesis. |
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Needs Work	The explanations can be difficult to follow.
No	Supporting evidence and explanation is not provided or is very unclearly explained.

Body paragraphs are clearly focused:

Yes	Clear topic sentences are used and sentences are clearly related.
Needs Work	At times topic sentences are vague and paragraph is not clearly structured.
No	Focus of paragraphs is unclear. Sentences are often unclearly related.

There are few grammatical errors:

Yes	Essay is relatively free from grammatical error. Errors do not make reading difficult.
Needs Work	There are significant numbers of common grammatical errors, such as run-ons, comma splices, fragments, and subordination errors, awkward wording or sentence structures. These errors are distracting, but do not make the meaning unclear.
No	There are many grammatical errors that making reading difficult.

Turned in on time?

Yes	No
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2-3 pages long?

Yes	No
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