

Paper for Ethanol Project, Rubric

	Strong	Adequate	Deficient
Character's Biography	Includes the necessary background information (name, age, family data, educational and professional history) and does so in a novel and creative manner. Adds ideas as to why the character is passionate about his/her position on ethanol.	Includes background information (name, age, family data, educational and professional history) and adds relevant facts with regard to his/her position on ethanol production.	Includes background information on your character (name, age, family data, educational and professional history).

Character's position	The views of the character with regard to the development of ethanol are introduced clearly and in such a way that one wants to read the paper. The position of the character is creatively linked to the biography of the character.	The views of the character with regard to the development of ethanol are introduced clearly. The position of the character is linked to the biography of the character.	The views of the character with regard to the development of ethanol are not really clear, and there is little or no link between the biography and the character's position.
Body paragraphs	The body of the paper contains paragraphs with strong topic sentences reinforced by evidence and logically supports the view of the character.	The body of the paper contains paragraphs with topic sentences reinforced by evidence and generally supports the views of the character.	The body of the paper contains paragraphs with few or no topic sentences related to the views of the character.
Organization	The argument is well organized, flows intelligently, and is easy to follow. Transitions between paragraphs are natural and fluid.	The argument is organized and easy to follow. Transitions between paragraphs are attempted.	Material is disorganized with no clear logical order between points and/or paragraphs.

Use of evidence	The argument is buttressed with a variety of authoritative sources. Evidence is appropriate, is used as a jumping-off point for creative and original thought, and is cited parenthetically using MLA format. A bibliography and honor statement appear at the end.	The argument is supported by more than two authoritative sources. The evidence is relevant, and some original thought is shown. Evidence is cited parenthetically using MLA format. A bibliography and honor statement appear at the end.	The argument does not use a variety of authoritative sources. The evidence does not support the points being made. The material is quoted with citation, but there is very little original thought presented. The bibliography and/or honor statement are lacking or need revision.
Scientific Content	The scientific relevance of the argument is thoroughly discussed, and prior research is integrated into the paper. Contradictions and inconsistencies between opposing views are included when appropriate.	The scientific relevance of the argument is discussed, and prior research is integrated into the paper. There is some discussion of inconsistencies between opposing view.	The scientific relevance of the argument is discussed in superficial terms and/or is misleading. There is no discussion of inconsistencies between opposing views.
Conclusion	The conclusion of the paper ties to the biography and offers ideas for the future of ethanol as fuel. The conclusion gives insight into implications and broader conclusions beyond the argument presented.	The conclusion of the paper ties to the biography and offers a summary of the argument presented but does not leave the reader with any broader implications to using ethanol as fuel.	The conclusion of the paper does not tie to the biography and does not offer anything beyond a recycling of the argument presented.
Mechanics	Sentences are smooth, complete, and of varying length and complexity. Vocabulary is varied, interesting, and appropriate. Grammar, spelling, and punctuation are nearly flawless.	Sentences are complete. Word choice is routine or inappropriate. There are some problems with grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	Sentences contain run-ons, fragments, and awkward phrasings. Word choice distracts from the argument. There are numerous problems with grammar, spelling, and punctuation.