

**Lansing Juneteenth Essay Competition  
Student Scoring Rubric\***

**Category III  
9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade (500-600 words)**

<b>CRITERIA</b>
<b>Format/Layout (0-5 points)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Essay is 500-600 words.</li><li>2. Essay is in 12 pt or 14 pt Times New Roman or Arial font.</li><li>3. Essay is double-spaced.</li></ol>
<b>Introduction (0-10 points)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Essay has a title.</li><li>2. The introduction is effective and well developed and presents the main idea.</li><li>3. The subject is introduced and basic information about how you structured the essay is provided in a clear and logical order.</li></ol>
<b>Body of the Essay (0-10 points)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The body follows a clear and logical order as presented in your introduction.</li><li>2. Your resources and facts support the details for each point or idea.</li><li>3. Your essay is well developed and stays on the topic.</li><li>4. The details and ideas used to support the essay topic are specific and show your original thinking.</li><li>5. Quotation marks (“ ”) are used when quoting someone else’s writing.</li><li>6. You included the author’s name as well as where the information you used came from and the proper reference for your source (book, magazine, website, film, etc.)</li></ol>
<b>Conclusion (0-5 points)</b> <p>Conclusion is effective and brief. You restate your thesis, summarize your main points, and comment on your point of view.</p>
<b>Grammar and Spelling (0-5 points)</b> <p>Your grammar, spelling, and punctuation are correct. (Points are subtracted for grammar mistakes like sentence fragments and a subject and verb that do not agree.)</p>

\*This rubric is the same one the judges will use to evaluate your essay. How many points do you think you’ve earned? Score your essay to compare with the judges’ evaluations.