***Hamlet* Paper Rubric**

**A paper**

Superior papers specific in their references, cogent in their definitions, and free   
 of plot summary that is not relevant to the question. These essays need not be without

flaws, but they demonstrate the writer's ability to discuss a literary work with **insight and   
understanding** and to control a wide range of the elements of **effective composition**. At   
all times they stay focused on the prompt, providing **specific support**--mostly through   
direct quotations--and connecting scholarly commentary to the overall meaning.

**B paper**

These papers are less thorough, less perceptive or less specific than 9-8 papers.

They are **well-written but with less maturity and control**. While they demonstrate the   
writer's ability to analyze a literary work, they reveal a more limited understanding and   
less stylistic maturity than do the papers in the 9-8 range.

**C paper**

Safe and "plastic," **superficiality** characterizes these essays. Discussion of   
meaning may be **formulaic**, mechanical; or inadequately related to the chosen details.   
Typically, these essays reveal simplistic thinking and/or immature writing. They usually   
demonstrate inconsistent control over the elements of composition and. are not as well   
conceived, organized, or developed as the upper-half papers. However, the writing is   
sufficient to convey the writer's ideas, stays mostly focused on the prompt, and contains   
at least **some effort to produce analysis**, direct or indirect.

**D paper**

Discussion is likely to be unpersuasive, perfunctory, **underdeveloped** or   
misguided. The meaning they deduce may be inaccurate or insubstantial and not clearly   
related to the question. Part of the question may be omitted altogether. The writing may   
convey the writer's ideas, but it reveals **weak control** over such elements as diction,   
organization,' syntax or grammar. Typically, these essays contain significant

**misinterpretations** of the question or the work they discuss; they may also contain little,   
if any, supporting evidence, and practice **paraphrase and plot summary at the expense   
of analysis.**

**F paper**

These essays compound the weakness of essays in the 4-3 range and are

frequently **unacceptably brief**. They are **poorly written on several counts**, including   
many **distracting errors in grammar and mechanics**. Although the writer may have   
made some effort to answer the question, the views presented have little clarity or   
coherence.

**Automatic Deductions\***  
MLA Format Errors- 10 points  
Word/Page Count- 25 points (each page)  
Failure to submit digitally- 50 points

Citation Errors- 10 points  
No Citations- 50 points

\*Please note that deductions are subject to change or be added at time of grading. Points listed are maximum points deducted for each error. Teacher discretion will override all automatic deductions.