GUIDELINES FOR GRADING ESSAYS
(Advanced Levels)

(1) Content and Overall Impression

A =   significant, interesting, well thought out, appropriate to assignment, good attention to needs of audience

B =   generally good work, but facts may be unsupported, or repititions or cliches may be apparent, fair attention to needs of audience

C =   careless development of information relevant to content, little sense of audience

D =   no effort to make content significant to composition, no sense of audience

F =   incoherent or wildly inappropriate content

(2) Organization

A =   well-organized ideas and paragraphs, use of clear topic and summary sentences, clear development of topic or argument, convincing, easy to follow

B =   good evidence of structuring of ideas and paragraphs, attempts at topic development, perhaps unwieldy use of patterns of organization

C =   some attempts at organization, but few topic, development, summary sequences

D =   hard to follow, organization undermines intelligibility

F =   no evidence of planning in structure of essay or paragraphs

(3) Stylistic technique

A =   skilled use of syntax appropriate to level and content; syntax is varied and register is appropriate to audience; good use of idioms and rhetorical and/or cohesive structures

B =   good use of syntax, but could better for level and content; errors, but attempts at sophistication, variation, and appropriateness

C =   errors, no attempts at sophistication, variation, and appropriateness

D =   errors and/or inappropriate syntax

F =   garbled syntax

(4) Grammar / Vocabulary

A =   few errors, excellent use of learned structures and vocabulary, moments of elegance

B =   comprehensible, some errors, good use of available structures and vocabulary

C =   substantial and significant errors; little attempt made to use new structures or vocabulary

D =   errors constitute one or more blocks to communication; no attempt to use new structures or vocabulary

F =   unintelligible

Overall Grade: A=4; B=3; C=2, D=1, F=0; add up points and divide by 4.