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| **Writing 1**  **Essay #2: The Science Fiction Genre**  **Grading Rubric** | Good | Needs  Improvement | Needs a lot of  improvement/  Missing |
| **MLA Document layout:** Double-spaced, 1” margins, name, class, date, title, header.  Paragraphs indented correctly. No extra space between paragraphs—fix by going to Paragraph>Spacing>Before&After—set both to zero. |  |  |  |
| **Length:** Minimum of 3 pages, plus works cited to make at least 4 pages. |  |  |  |
| **Section I: Introduction & Thesis--**Identified and defined the science fiction genre and its major features. Used outside sources and many examples. |  |  |  |
| **Section II:** Explained the relationship of this text to its genre—provided specific examples from the text of how this is a science fiction novel. Used the text as a source. Outside sources may also be used. |  |  |  |
| **Section III:** Used some specific style elements to demonstrate how this is a science fiction novel—used specific passages from the novel to show how Williams used character, plot, language usage, tone, etc. to create a science fiction novel. Used the text as a source. Referred to the Style Guide and the science fiction novel elements. |  |  |  |
| **Section IV: Conclusion**— Discussed the significance of the science fiction  genre and this text in particular. Used the text and outside sources. |  |  |  |
| **Research:** A minimum of 4 sources--Clear evidence of carefully chosen, appropriate sources. Mostly scholarly sources; popular sources used sparingly. The selected sources are both credible and timely and offer clear support of specific points of argument. |  |  |  |
| **Source Use and Integration:** Integrated the sources seamlessly into the composition. Used sources of different types in support of a clearly delivered analytical synthesis (the sources serve as evidence or starting points for conversation—they do not speak for you). Used and ***cited*** direct quotes, summaries, and paraphrases. Direct quotes are well-integrated. |  |  |  |
| **MLA citations:** Used correctly formatted page number citations.Paragraph citations only used when no page numbers were available. (Be cautious about sources with no page numbers.) |  |  |  |
| **MLA Works Cited:** The works cited page is correctly formatted.Minimum of 4 sources. |  |  |  |
| **Point of View/Voice:** Objective, 3rd-person, formal point of view. No contractions, such as “don’t.” Academic writing: No chattiness, no clichés or gimmicks like “hooks.” No emotional appeal. Use active voice whenever possible instead of passive. Do not slip into second-person “you.” No personal reactions, no first person. Do not state arguments without sourced or textual evidence. State arguments objectively, but DO add commentary to interpret the meaning and significance. |  |  |  |
| **Organization and coherence:** The essay is deliberately paced, and demonstrates a  high degree of skill and control when moving from idea to idea, paragraph to  paragraph, and sentence to sentence. Paragraphing: Clear topic sentences,  appropriate length and number, unity (everything belongs). Do not begin or end with direct  quotes. Uses transitions—connections between paragraphs and shifts inside paragraphs—use transition words and phrases. |  |  |  |
| **Clarity & Readability:** The writing is clear, eloquent, characterized by precise  word choices, purposeful sentences with varied structure, and a high degree of  readability.  **Grammar, Usage, Punctuation, & Spelling:** The prose is mechanically correct and free  of errors in punctuation, grammar, spelling, and usage. |  |  |  |
| **Proofreading** (spelling, no missing words or typos, capitalization, etc.) Go over it 5 to  10 times before handing in. Everyone always needs improvement in this area. |  |  |  |
| **Use of questions:** Do not over-use questions. They can result in too much emotional appeal. |  |  |  |