

English 10A – Unit 4 Expository Essay CHECKLIST Portfolio Requirements (24 points)

Write a 5 paragraph essay that presents information or offers an explanation about a story or poem from Units 1 - 4.

Part will be about the story/poem, and part will show the research from at least 2 secondary sources. Quotations should be included from both story/poem and the secondary sources.

1. Heading, Title (1 point)

- Your Name, Teacher, Class, Date (left-justified)
- Title of your essay, correctly capitalized (centered)

2. Introduction (2 points)

- One paragraph that engages the reader and tells why this topic is important to you or the reader
- Ends with a thesis that ties the author/work to the point you are examining
 - Example: The town of Hannibal influenced much of Mark Twain's life and writings.

3. Ideas/Organization (12 points)

- Each paragraph should have a controlling idea with supporting, factual details
- Clear organization
- Up to half of the essay is about the story/poem, with original ideas about technique and/or theme in the work.
- Has quotations from both the story/poem and at least 2 secondary sources.
- Has a Works Cited list in MLA format of the sources you cited in the essay
- Quotations/paraphrased information from the story/poem have in-text citations
- Quotations/paraphrased information from the secondary sources have in-text citations

4. Conventions and Techniques (4 points)

- Punctuation, usage and spelling are correct (follow the lessons' Power Rules)
- Uses MLA format, such as double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font
- Transitional sentences, sentence variety

5. Conclusion (2 points)

- Short summary that ties back to the introduction and thesis