

Scoring Guidelines for ABMF Past is Prologue Essay Contest (Expository Composition) For Judges: Participant ID# _____

| | Masterful (10-9 pts) | Skilled (8-7 points) | Proficient (6-5 points) | Developing (4-1) |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| FOCUS, PURPOSE, THESIS Weight: 20% | Engaging, thorough and full development of a clear thesis as appropriate to assignment purpose and all requirements, including discussion of topic and mandatory questions. | Competent and well-developed thesis represents sound and adequate understanding of assignment, including discussion of topic and mandatory questions. | Mostly adequate understanding with thesis that is effective and includes all requirements but may be vague or indirectly supported. | Underdeveloped focus and purpose; incomplete understanding of topic. Thesis may be stated but not developed. May be missing some requirements. |
| STRUCTURE, ORGANIZATION Weight: 20% | Introduction provides essential details that provide context; organization is sequential; body paragraphs are well-developed, relevant, and appropriately divided; use of transitions between ideas is evident; unnecessary repetition is avoided. Conclusion is developed. Topic and mandatory questions are developed. | Competent organization includes introduction, body paragraph development and conclusion. Contains only relevant information. Some use of transitional words and ideas. Topic and mandatory questions are included. | Functional use of introduction, body, and conclusion. Some transitions included. Mostly relevant and sufficient information. Topic and mandatory questions are included. | Organization of ideas and paragraphs is generally present, but ideas may be not logically ordered. Repetition of ideas rather than progression. Introduction, body, and conclusion not effectively included. Topic/ mandatory questions may be missing. |
| IDEAS, SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT (EVIDENCE) Weight: 20% | Consistent and accurate historical evidence and analysis of ideas; ideas are relevant to thesis and purpose; main points are supported with valid and specific evidence. Citations are provided. | Historically accurate ideas supported sufficiently; support is sound, valid, relevant, and logical. Citations are provided. | Main points and ideas are present but not consistently accurate, developed, and supported. Citations are provided. | Insufficient, non-specific, inaccurate or irrelevant support for main ideas. Missing or incomplete citations. |
| ORIGINALITY: AUDIENCE, TONE, POINT OF VIEW, VOCABULARY, WORD CHOICE Weight: 20% | Originality is developed with the following: authoritative, humanitarian, or other appropriate tone; awareness of audience; appropriate point of view; exceptional and precise word choice. | Effective and accurate awareness of audience; tone and point-of-view are satisfactory, and strong use of vocabulary creates originality. | General but inconsistent awareness of audience; tone and point-of-view are attempted but not refined or consistent. General use of words. Attempt at originality. | Shows little awareness of audience; little presence of meaningful tone; point-of-view not indicated. Word choice is ineffective. Little evidence of originality. |
| SENTENCE STRUCTURE & MECHANICS Weight: 15% | Sentence structure is effective and rich with well-chosen variety of sentence styles and lengths. Virtually free of errors in spelling, punctuation, verb tense, usage, subject/verb agreement, and other grammatical conventions. | Effective and varied use of sentences. Contains only occasional errors in punctuation, spelling, and other grammatical conventions. | Appropriate use of sentences and few errors in structure. Contains many errors in grammatical conventions which may interfere with meaning. | Reliance on simple sentence structures; may have fragments or run-on sentences. Contains many errors in grammatical conventions which may interfere with meaning. |
| PRESENTATION Weight: 5% | All Header information is properly included on every page: Unique ID #, NO NAME; Title; Date of essay; Word Count, Page Number. 1- inch margins, double spaced, 12-pt Times Roman typeface | Missing one component of correct Header and essay formatting. | Missing 2 or 3 components of correct Header and essay formatting. | Essays must be submitted with the Participant ID# only. Essays submitted with a name will be disqualified and not entered into the judging pool. |
| SCORE | | | | |