

Introductory Physics Course – term paper rubric

CRITERIA	Gradations of Quality			
	4	3	2	1
Organization	The main ideas are clearly stated and the information is well organized.	The main ideas are clearly stated and the information is fairly well organized	Organization is rough but workable. I sometimes get off topic.	My writing is aimless and disorganized.
Sentence fluency	My sentences are clear, complete, and of varying lengths.	I have well-constructed sentences but the style is somewhat pedestrian.	My sentences are often awkward, run-ons, or fragmented.	Many run-on sentences and sentence fragments make my essay hard to read.
Conventions	I use correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	I have a few errors to fix, but I generally use correct conventions.	I have enough errors in my essay to distract the reader.	Numerous errors make my essay hard to read.
Sources and citations	I have a wide range of sources both in number and in kind (books, journals, and internet), cite all sources used for writing the essay, and use proper citation conventions.	I have a wide range of sources (books, journals, and internet), but further citations are required to substantiate claims. I use proper citation conventions.	I have a fairly wide range of sources (books, journals, and internet), some citations are omitted, and proper citation conventions are not always used.	My range of sources is very limited both in number and in kind, and proper conventions are not always used.
Physics	The physics ideas used in the paper are correct and clearly elucidated	The physics ideas are mostly correct and usually clearly articulated.	The physics ideas are somewhat confused.	Some key physics ideas are incorrect.
Deadlines	I met all the electronic and hardcopy deadlines for the initial proposal, first draft, and the final version.	I missed one deadline.	I missed two deadlines.	I missed three deadlines.

