



**University Interscholastic League  
Essay Evaluation Form**

**PLEASE RECORD THE ENTRY NUMBER IN THE SPACE ABOVE!**

**Instructions:** Judges evaluate each essay about the following criteria: thesis statement, research, paragraph construction, grammar, and parenthetical citations and bibliography. The sections below are intended for judges to provide brief constructive comments for contestants based on those criteria — strengths of the essay, areas needing improvement, and some suggested ways to improve.

**Strengths of the Essay**

**Select all that apply:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Paper effectively addresses the essay prompt                                   | Commentary bolsters key ideas                            |
| Thesis statement is effectively proven about far-reaching topic                | Paper moves beyond a summary of the subject's life       |
| Purposefully utilizes a variety of sources including primary sources           | Contains very few grammatical mistakes                   |
| Paper is clear, well organized, and coherent                                   | Parenthetical citations & Works Cited are mostly correct |
| Concrete details (quotes, paraphrases, summaries) are effectively incorporated | Essay is memorable                                       |

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional comments:**

**Areas Needing Improvement**

**Select all that apply:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Thesis statement is unclear and/or weak and/or not proven and/or topic is not far-reaching | Commentary about research is lacking                                     |
| Paper does not move beyond a biography   | Multiple errors exist that hinder understanding                          |
| Paper needs more source variety  | Awkward sentences and/or word choice                                     |
| Lack of clarity, organization, and/or coherency  | Parenthetical citations and/or Works Cited page is inaccurate or missing |
| Concrete details are ineffective   |  |

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional comments:**

**Constructive Comments and Suggestions for the Contestant:**

Large empty box for constructive comments and suggestions.