Holistic Scoring Guide for Quarter Papers

Grade	DESCRIPTION OF GRADE
A	- In A papers/assignments, the student has exceeded expectations. - The paper reflects the college-level ability associated with quality AP work. - The quality of the paper is so high that teacher would be proud to have his name associated with this paper outside of school as an example of student work from the AP Government classes. - This level of work completes the assignment in unique and thoughtful ways. - All of the claims made in the work are fully supported and explained. - The author clearly has an audience and purpose in mind and has made this evident in the work. - The argument is well structured and supported and logically supports the thesis and conclusion. - Citations are used appropriately and not illegally or overbearingly. - This work is relatively free of grammatical or mechanical mistakes. - The work was turned in on time.
B	- B papers/assignments demonstrate the student's ability to begin to go beyond what is required of her or him. - The paper reflects the high-school-level ability associated with good AP work. - The quality of the paper is good enough that teacher would allow to have his name associated with this paper within the school as an example of student work from the AP Government classes. - This level of work completes the assignment while demonstrating some critical thinking skills. - Most of the claims made in the work are fully supported. - The argument supports the thesis and conclusion, though the reasoning may be unclear at times. - The author has appropriately used citations and references and has not plagiarized any portion of the paper. - This work may have a few grammatical or mechanical errors. - The work was turned in on time.
C	- C-level work demonstrates the student's ability to complete the assignment. - This work has completed every aspect of the assignment in a satisfactory way. - The paper reflects the average level associated with AP work. - There are claims in C-level work that are not supported or thought through all the way. - The language is clear most of the time, but there are confusing passages throughout. - The author has appropriately used citations and references and has not plagiarized any portion of the paper. - The argument is not well structured or the conclusions do not follow from the thesis and supporting paragraphs. - The paper may be A-level or B-level work but was turned in late.
D	- In D papers/assignments, the student has failed to meet the requirements of the assignment. - The paper does not reflect AP-level work. - The argument is poorly structured and relies on flawed logic and reasoning throughout. - Citations are unclear or confusing.
F	- This paper does not complete the assignment in any clear or thoughtful way. - There is no evidence; claims are not supported. - There are no citations or it is improperly cited.