

Rubric for the scoring of field trip papers

NOVA Annandale | Geology | Bentley

Organization:

- 10 points** Paper is well organized, with a clear progression of ideas and content.
 - 5 points** Paper is moderately organized, with some lapses in coherent progression of ideas or lapses in logic.
 - 2 points** Paper is poorly organized, with no coherent progression of ideas or content, and numerous lapses in logic.
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- 10 points** Paper is organized geo-chronologically: that is, in the order things happened in geologic history (not in the order we observed them on the trip).
 - 5 points** Paper is organized trip-chronologically: that is, in the order evidence was observed on the trip (not in the order they happened in geologic history).
 - 2 points** Paper displays no chronological organization whatsoever, but instead skips around chaotically between topics.

Writing, grammar, spelling, and formatting:

- 10 points** Paper is well written, with a mastery of the English language, spelling, & sentence structure.
 - 5 points** Paper is moderately written, with some grammatical and spelling errors.
 - 2 points** Paper is poorly written, with an unacceptable number of grammatical and spelling errors.
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- 10 points** Paper is focused and relevant, with a minimal amount of extra words.
 - 5 points** Paper is mostly focused and mostly relevant, but displays some “fluff” (“It was so interesting,” “I’ve never been outside before,” etc.)
 - 2 points** Paper contains a large amount of “fluff” (“I really enjoyed this trip,” etc.) and a minimal amount of real content.
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- 3 points** Separate paragraphs correspond to separate topics being discussed.
 - 0 points** Paper uses only one big long paragraph, or breaks between paragraphs do not correspond with changes in topics being discussed.
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- 2 points** The paper is properly formatted (Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1¼” margins).
 - 0 points** The paper is formatted in some way other than the assigned format of Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1¼” margins.
 - 2 points** Paper includes a title page, which was specifically forbidden. (negative points for wasting paper)
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- 3 points** Citations are used for outside information, and are consistently formatted (either MLA or APA).
 - 2 point** Paper cites sources, but inconsistently or incompletely.
 - 0 points** Paper does not cite its sources.
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- 2 points** Illustrations are clear, labeled correctly, and relevant to the topics being discussed.
 - 1 point** Illustrations are not used.
 - 0 points** Illustrations are unclear, labeled incorrectly, and/or irrelevant to the topics being discussed.

Total, page 1 = _____ (out of 50 points possible)

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(continued)

Geological content:

10 points Student has clearly distinguished between geological observations and interpretations.

5 points Student has mostly distinguished between geological observations and interpretations, but has mixed them up in a few places.

2 points Student has not distinguished at all between geological observations and interpretations.

10 points Student has clearly stated all geologic evidence observed on the trip.

5 points Student has stated most geologic evidence observed on the trip, but has left out some key observations.

2 points Student has stated only a minimal amount of the geologic evidence observed on the trip.

10 points Student has gotten all of their geological facts right.

5 points Student has gotten most geological facts right, but made a few minor errors.

2 points Student has made numerous factual errors of geology, but got a few things right.

10 points Paper describes the correct chronology (order in time) of geologic events.

5 points Paper describes a mostly correct chronology (order in time) of geologic events.

2 points Paper describes an utterly incorrect chronology (order in time) of geologic events.

10 points All trip stops (field locations) are mentioned.

5 points Most trips stops are mentioned, but some are missing.

2 points A minimal number of trip stops are mentioned, but most are missing.

Total, page 2 = _____ (out of 50 points possible)

Total, both pages = _____ (out of 100 points possible)