

### Writing Assessment Rubric – Essay on the Causes and Consequences of The Great Railroad Strike of 1877

	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Needs Work</b>
<b>Content/Focus</b>	Writing shows a well-reasoned perspective and thorough understanding of the events of The Great Railroad Strike of 1877. Detailed use of specific primary source material to explain the main reasons for the Strike, the relationships of those involved, and the resulting short and long-term consequences.	Writing shows a reasoned perspective and an understanding of the events of The Great Railroad Strike of 1877. Uses most primary source material to explain the main reasons for the Strike, the relationships of those involved, and the resulting short and long-term consequences.	Writing shows several perspectives and a grasp of The Great Railroad Strike of 1877. Uses some primary source material to explain the main reasons for the Strike. Limited analysis of the short and long-term consequences. Details could be elaborated upon or made clearer.	Writing does not show a clear understanding of the The Great Railroad Strike of 1877. Minimal effort to incorporate any information from the primary source documents. Writing shows no understanding of the larger implications of the strike.
<b>Organization</b>	Writing shows logical and analytical structure. Main points are focused and clear; they are supported by specific data from the primary source documents. The paper has a clear thesis statement. Sophisticated transitions and sentence structure	Writing shows logical structure. Main points are clear and supported by data from the primary source documents. The paper has a thesis statement and adequate sentence structure and transitions.	Writing shows an attempt at a logical structure. Main points are present but could be more focused. Specific use of primary source documents is evident but more clearly explained. Some transitions between paragraphs are evident.	Writing lacks an apparent logical order or consistent arrangement of ideas. Sentence structure and transitions are confusing or do not exist. No attempt to use the data from the primary source documents.
<b>Style</b>	Writing shows a sophisticated style and perspective, precise word choice, and complex and varied sentence structure.	Writing shows objective perspective, appropriate word choice, and a variety of sentence structure.	Writing offers some ideas, but occasionally uses incorrect vocabulary. Sentence structure is simple, but functional.	Writing does not show any analytical style. Word choices are inappropriate or awkward. Sentences need more variety in structure.
<b>Conventions</b>	The essay is grammatically correct and free of any spelling errors. Clear evidence of proofreading prior to submission.	Writing shows clear evidence of editing but does contain a few minor spelling errors.	Multiple errors in grammar, spelling, and mechanics are present.	No effort has been made to proofread and correct grammar, spelling, or mechanics mistakes.