

Criteria	Description
Clear main message/argument	<p>Have a clear message/ proposition/ thesis/ research question that you develop in the text.</p> <p>Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you say clearly what this is in your introduction? - Does your argument and structure of the essay support this? - Do you recap your argument in the discussion/conclusion?
Clear definition of main concepts	<p>Do you define the main concepts that the user should know about?</p> <p>Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you define these concepts before first use? - Do you avoid overwhelming the user with many concepts that you never use further? - Do you consistently use the concepts that you have defined in the rest of the essay?
Balancing sources and your own analysis	<p>An essay should build on some sources and your own analysis of these sources. Sources can be of different types, mainly research-based on non-research based (e.g. news articles). You should have a clear plan for how your essay is built, i.e. mainly based on research, mainly based on your own analysis.</p> <p>Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you clarify the role of your sources versus your own analysis in the essay? - Do you refer properly to your sources and provide proper bibliography data? - Do you make proper use of research literature versus other types of sources?
Language and flow	<p>You should read several times through your text and try to improve the language and the flow of the text.</p> <p>Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you explain what you want to say in the essay early on? - Do you use marker text to explain and sum up text along the way? - Have you considered using tools such as MS grammar check or Grammarly? - Have you used the IEEE template for formatting your text?
List of references	<p>All references should be referred using full bibliographic data and in IEEE citation style.</p> <p>Tips: You can use tools such as Zotero to automate citation and create correct formatting automatically.</p>