

Grad Challenge Tri-search Paper Assessment Rubric

Each paper must meet the following format requirements in order to be read by a Grad Challenge Faculty Reading Group. *Achieving or Exceeding the Standards on First Reading* leaves the student free to focus on the only remaining component of Grad Challenge, the presentation.

- ✓ Paper must adhere to format guidelines as described in *Grad Challenge Student Handbook*.
- ✓ Paper must satisfy the minimum length requirement for the contract option chosen.
- ✓ Parenthetical references and bibliography must follow MLA format with few or no errors (see information in this handbook).
- ✓ Bibliography and body of paper must contain at least three interviews and three resources. Not all can be web sites and encyclopedias are not acceptable resources. Citations must be included in the body of the paper.

Final Assessments

- ◆ *Exceeds Standard* - Paper must be assessed as *Exceeds Standard* for four out of five standards areas.
- ◆ *Achieves Standard* - Paper must be assessed *Achieve Standard* for all five standards areas.
- ◆ *Does not Achieve Standard* - Paper is assessed *Does Not Achieve the Standard* for any one or more of the five standards areas **OR** does not meet one of the four format requirements above.

	EXCEEDS STANDARD	ACHIEVES STANDARD	DOES NOT ACHIEVE STANDARD
Purpose	A clear purpose is established in an engaging introduction, effectively maintained throughout the body of the paper, and reinforced and extended in a conclusion that suggests directions for further inquiry.	A clear purpose is established in the introduction, supported throughout the body of the paper, and reinforced in the conclusion.	Purpose is not clear or is not fulfilled; writing lacks an adequate introduction, body, and/or conclusion.
Flow	Paper is highly unified and coherent; transitions between sentences and between paragraphs enhance the relationship of ideas throughout.	Paper is unified and coherent; transitions between sentences and between paragraphs are logical.	Paper is difficult to understand; transitions are missing or confusing; paper presents information haphazardly.
Evidence and Analysis	Main ideas are extensively supported by pertinent facts, vivid details, relevant examples, and original and insightful analysis.	Main ideas are supported with appropriate facts, details, examples, and analysis.	Main ideas are unclear; facts, examples, and details are lacking or fail to support ideas; no analysis or insight.
Integration	Paper comprehensively and engagingly integrates personal experience (including creation of Tangible Product, if applicable), research, and interviews.	Paper connects personal experience (including creation of Tangible Product, if applicable), research, and interviews.	Paper does not clearly connect personal experience (including creation of Tangible Product, if applicable), research, and interviews.
Grammar/ Usage/ Mechanics	Grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage contribute to clarity and style of the writing.	Usage and mechanics do not detract from the effectiveness of the writing.	Errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics detract from the effectiveness of the writing.

