Essay Evaluation Activity

International Politics Loyola College in Maryland

There are at least three purposes to this assignment. The first is to encourage you to write better and more coherently. The second is to expose you to more explanations of these topics, and from other points of view. The third is to allow me to determine your level of understanding of this topic. We achieved the first purpose when you discovered that your paper would be undergoing peer review. We will achieve the second and third purposes here.

To Do

Read each of the three papers assigned to you. Print out and fill in the evaluation form for each of the three papers. Additionally, you are to attach a (typed) summary of the evaluation, focusing on the strengths of the paper.

The five evaluation levels are Insufficient, Poor, Fair, Good, and Perfect. A score of *Perfect* indicates that there are no errors in that category. A score of *Good* indicates that there are few errors in that category. A score of *Fair* indicates that there are more than a few errors in that category, but they do not significantly affect the readability of the thoughts. A score of *Poor* indicates that the number of errors is so great that the readability is affected. A score of *Insufficient* indicates that there is doubt in the evaluator's mind that the author knows what he or she is writing. This includes structural (headings are missing, sections are out of order, improper spelling is frequent, commas seem placed randomly) and conceptual (it is not clear what each theory means, it is not clear what the differences are, it is clear that the author does not know).

To Hand In

On the due date, you will hand in the forms with the summary evaluations stapled to each, with the entire stack of six pages stapled together. Please do not put your name on these evaluations.

You should evaluate the papers fairly and thoughtfully, otherwise *you* will not get the full benefit from this exercise. Having you evaluate a paper allows me to see more clearly what *you*, the evaluator, do and do not understand. As such, I will grade *your* evaluation for correct understanding of the theories, the format, and the reference list.

If there is an error in the papers you read, but you do not catch that error, then you will not receive full points for this assignment.

Author Name:

	Insufficient	Poor	Fair	Good	Perfect
Mechanics					
Outline Followed					
Grammar Errors Absent					
Spelling Errors Absent					
Typographical Errors Absent					
Style Sheet Followed					
Classical Realism					
Definition Provided					
Explanation of Event Correct					
Explanation of Event Clear					
Liberal Realism					
Definition Provided					
Explanation of Event Correct					
Explanation of Event Clear					
Structural Realism					
Definition Provided					
Explanation of Event Correct					
Explanation of Event Clear					
Neoclassical Realism					
Definition Provided					
Explanation of Event Correct					
Explanation of Event Clear					
The Reference List					
Reference List Correctly Formatted					
All References Listed					

In addition to this checklist, write a $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 page (typed) summary of the strengths of this paper.

Author Name:

	Insufficient	Poor	Fair	Good	Perfect
Mechanics					
Outline Followed					
Grammar Errors Absent					
Spelling Errors Absent					
Typographical Errors Absent					
Style Sheet Followed					
Classical Realism					
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