The Pursuit of Happyness: Essay Response Rubric

Directions:

1. Please write a one-page, typed, double-spaced essay in a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman, Calibri, Arial) with 1-inch margins.
2. Chris faced many challenges during the movie, yet he still achieved his goals. Describe a minimum of three decisions Chris made or behaviors/personality traits he demonstrated that helped him reach his goals. Use specific examples from the movie to support the decisions you think were important for Chris.
3. You will be assessed according to the following rubric.
4. Turn in this rubric with your essay.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Excellent | Satisfactory | Not yet meeting expectations |
| Content: Author has supplied the requested information | Essay identifies three or more decisions or behaviors/personality traits affecting Chris’s achievement. | Essay identifies two decisions or behaviors/ personality traits affecting Chris’s achievement. | Essay includes less than two decisions or behavior/personality traits affecting Chris’s achievement. |
| Supporting Evidence:Author has backed up their assertions with supporting evidence based on the film | Essay includes examples from the movie of Chris’s decisions or behaviors. The reasons are thoughtful and include specific examples. | Essay includes three examples from the movie of Chris’s decisions or behaviors. However, the reasons are brief and do not include much thought. | Essay includes two or fewer reasons from the movie of Chris’s decisions or behaviors. |
| Writing Skills/Mechanics:Author has attended to writing conventions and has thoughtfully chosen vocabulary and structure. | Sentences are fluent and effective with very few errors in mechanics, punctuation, and word usage. | Sentences are usually controlled. There are minor errors in mechanics, punctuation, and word usage. | Sentences are generally adequate. There are lapses in mechanics, punctuation, and grammar. |
| Organization:Author has organized thoughts into an introduction, body and conclusion. Careful thought is given to transition and flow. | Assignment is well-organized and is neatly assembled with an introduction, body and conclusion. | Assignment contains an introduction, body and conclusion, but fails to flow together. Transitions are lacking. | Assignment poorly organized and shows a lack of attention.  |