

AP Language Writing Rubric

Division & Classification Essay

- Student Checklist:**
- Word Count: **800 to 1,200 words**
 - Double space in 12-point font
 - Create a Google Doc titled “P3 Division & Classification + Your Name”
 - Copy and paste this rubric into your Google Doc.

Prompt: Choose a category that you can divide and classify into at least three or four categories (representing at least four body paragraphs). Possibilities for division and classification are groups of high school students, breeds of dogs, members of a typical American family, sorts of people, kinds of video games, types of friends, species of plants or animals, types of cars, categories of teachers, types of colleges, [ways of reacting to setbacks](#), [ways of impressing a potential boyfriend / girlfriend](#), [ways of responding to stress](#), [ways of breaking up with your boyfriend / girlfriend](#). There are millions more you could think up! Basically, don't choose anything that you could easily just look up on the Internet. Put your own unique, imaginative spin on this topic. The ones in blue are ostensibly more complex.

1. Writing Skills = 25 points

- Are the subjects divided logically into at least three categories that are both clear, mutually exclusive, and covers the total range of your topic.
- Does the writer include one or two sentences per body paragraph that effectively describe the distinguishing characteristics of each classification?
- To what extent is the writing clear of distracting errors in mechanics, usage, spelling, and grammar?

Limited Inadequate Adequate Effective Stellar

2. GET OFF YOUR *BUTS* = 15 points

Underline in bold 14-point font at least eight examples of transitional words used correctly in the context of your sentence *other than* the coordinating conjunctions (fanboys). Go to the [helpful words](#) page for a list of transitions. Finally, if you begin a sentence with a transition, you usually (but not always) use a comma after it.

3. Effective Sentences to Create Flow = 20 points

USE PARALLEL STRUCTURE: Write in bold red text at least one example of parallel structure.

COMPOUND-COMPLEX: Highlight in green and label via the comments section four different types of compound-complex sentences in any of the following structural formats:

- ★ DC, IC, coordinating conjunction IC.
- ★ DC, IC; conjunct, IC.
- ★ IC DC, coordinating conjunction IC.
- ★ IC DC; conjunct, IC.
- ★ IC, coordinating conjunction DC, IC.
- ★ IC; conjunct, DC, IC.
- ★ IC, coordinating conjunction IC DC.
- ★ IC; conjunct, IC DC.

Total Score = 60 points