

Biographical Book Review Rubric

Name _____

Thesis Sentence Approved _____
(Attached)

Person _____

Plan Page Approved _____
(Attached)

Remember this is an analysis, *not* a summary. You will receive no credit for a summary of the book. Your focus is the author's attitude toward your person. That means you must the book in light of your expert knowledge of your person's life. Your thesis sentence for your review must include the title of the biography, the name of the reviewer, and at least three opinion words to describe the biographer's attitude. You are the judge of the accuracy, authenticity, and bias of the reviewer.

	A	B	C	D/F
Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear, focused, purposeful thesis statement with strong evidence • Creative, original ideas, enjoyable to read • Goes beyond the obvious or predictable • Insightful connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and focused thesis statement, but lacking strong evidence • Most of the details relate to the main idea • Believable, reader is interested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis is expressed clearly, but simply, and is less developed • Some details, but may be too general or not related to the main idea • Reader is not interested but understands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a thesis? I'm not sure! • Either very few details or too many details that aren't connected • Reader unsure about the topic
Evidence/ Citations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three opinion words are insightful and intriguing • At least three carefully selected quotes are integrated gracefully into each body paragraph. • Clear statement of the <i>biographer's</i> attitude 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three opinion words are included • At least three selected quotes are integrated into each body paragraph. • Adequate statement of the <i>biographer's</i> attitude 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three opinion words do not discriminate ideas well • At least three selected quotes are included in each body paragraph, awkwardly integrated • Unclear statement of the <i>biographer's</i> attitude 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does <i>not</i> support three opinion words • Does <i>not</i> include three quotes in each body paragraph. • Does <i>not</i> integrate quotes. • Does not state the <i>biographer's</i> attitude
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well organized and purposeful • Ideas are clearly linked to support • Compelling introduction and convincing conclusion • Carefully selected, sophisticated transitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good organization • Ideas are connected and supported with detail • Strong lead and appropriate conclusion • Strong, clear transitions, occasionally sophisticated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reader can follow the organization of ideas • Details are connected to the main idea • Includes a lead and conclusion • Transitions are present but repetitive and obvious. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard to follow • No clear main idea • Too many or not enough details that don't match the main idea • Poor introduction and/or conclusion • Transitions missing, points aren't connected
Diction Word Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses strong verbs and precise nouns • Uses unexpected phrasing, including alliteration, analogies and metaphors • Varied, original, yet appropriate vocabulary for audience and purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses clear but predictable language • Attempts to use alliteration, similes and metaphors • Appropriate vocabulary, sometimes varied and original 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relies on only simple, common language • Words are very general (e.g., stuff, nice, said, fun), repetitive vocabulary without much attention to writing purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words are overly simple or used incorrectly • Words get in the way of meaning • Minimal variety of different words used
Syntax/ Sentence Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses variety of sentence lengths and structures, including parallelism • Different sentence openers used • Smooth, natural writing • Clearly second draft writing 	<p>Some sentences begin differently and vary in length</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some variety in structure • Writing is easy to read and clearly has been proofread, though not revised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences begin with little variety; predictable • Same sentence structure is used repeatedly • Some run-ons or choppy sentences • Careless composition, clearly needs proofreading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences often begin the same • Some sentences are hard to understand even if reread • Many incomplete or run-on sentences • Difficult to read

FINAL GRADE: _____ **out of 100 points**