

Student Blog Post – Discussion participation rubric

There are four (4) separate criteria in this assignment, each worth 25 points. Extra credit is +5.

SBP author: SBP dates:	Extra credit	Yes	No
Comment You contribute to the online discussion by commenting on the blog post, responding to its questions, taking issue with a claim that it makes, or adding your thoughts to the conversation. A strong comment includes a link to another article/book/blog (with contextual commentary from you) that adds new depth to the conversation.			
Question You ask a question of the person who posted the blog or of another student			
Respond You respond directly to another student's comment or question and add to the conversation by commenting on their comment, responding to their question, taking issue with a claim they make, or adding your new ideas. A strong response includes a link to another article/book/blog (with contextual commentary from you) that adds new depth to the conversation.			
Compliment You compliment the author on something that they did well in their blog post (e.g., "I like the way you described..." or "I found your writing style to be easy to follow"— <u>not</u> "I like the song you chose") by addressing the author's writing skills.			

Common problem areas – any items circled are relevant to your essay

1. Inaccuracies.

2. Ineffective introduction/conclusion. Try writing your introduction last or using your conclusion as your introduction (and writing a new conclusion!). Don't use the conclusion just to restate ideas you've already said.

3. Unfocused paragraphs. Each paragraph should have one main idea. Make sure all sentences in the paragraph support the topic sentence. Separate ideas should be in separate paragraphs.

4. Weak evidence. Examples should support your argument explicitly. Your descriptions of your examples may be too vague.

5. Too much summary. Analyze, don't summarize! Focus on what each musical idea means more than (chronologically) listing what happens. Ask yourself "so what" about every sentence you write.

6. Confusing flow of ideas.

7. Grammar/Punctuation.

8. Requirements (length, number of examples, format, etc.)