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| **Your name**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Name of the author of this essay**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Marking category**  These are the marking categories given on the “guidelines for papers” and the marking rubric: <http://blogs.ubc.ca/phil230/assignment-instructions/guidelines-for-writing-essays/>  -- The questions are there to give you something to think about; you don’t have to answer all of them! | **Your comments**  Please provide comments BOTH on what worked well and what could use improvement.  In wording your comments, think about how you would feel receiving that comment—be respectful, polite, and constructive. |
| **Organization**  *Possible things you could comment on*  \* Is there an introduction with a clear thesis statement? Does the thesis statement describe well what the rest of the essay argues for?  \* Can you follow the thread of the argument throughout the part of the essay that is written out, or is it sometimes hard to follow where the essay is going?  \* Do you think the paragraphs are in a good order, or would you suggest reordering in some way? | **Positive comments (what worked well)**  **Constructive criticism (what could be improved (if anything))** |
| **Strength of argument**  *Possible things you could comment on*  \* Does the essay provide adequate textual support for claims made about the text, whether through quotes or paraphrases?  \* Are there claims made about the texts that may be inaccurate according to what the text says (in other words, may the person have interpreted the text incorrectly?)  \* Has the author explained the texts well enough given the audience you were to assume? (people who aren’t taking the course)  \* Are there any serious objections to claims or arguments in the essay that you think the author should have considered?  \* Is there anything else the author should consider in making the argument, something that should be added, in your view? | **Positive comments (what worked well)**  **Constructive criticism (what could be improved (if anything))** |
| **Insight**  \* Do you think the essay does a good job of providing thought-provoking arguments, or looking at subtle aspects o the texts that aren’t obvious on the surface? |  |
| **Style & Mechanics**  *Possible things you might comment on*  \* Is there anything about the author’s writing style that you think works well (or not)? For example, the author may use too many obscure words or a complicated sentence structure that makes it harder to read the essay.  \* Are there enough grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors to be distracting, or to make the essay hard to understand?  \* Are sources cited when they need to be? For example, are there page references for quotes and for paraphrases of specific claims and arguments from the texts? Is there a Works Cited section for sources that were not assigned for class? | **Positive comments (what worked well)**  **Constructive criticism (what could be improved (if anything))** |
| **Anything else!** | **If you have any other comments, please put them here** |