

## 2023 Essay Rubric # \_\_\_\_\_

**Theme:** When women do not have the freedom to make choices about their bodies, how does this impact society?  
 What can Democrats in South Carolina do to ensure the protection of womens' rights?

**Judges:** please select ONE box for EACH category. Add scores of the five categories and write the total score below.

Categories:	4	3	2	1
<b>Connection to the Theme</b>	The author clearly demonstrates an understanding of the relevance of the theme to BOTH self and future generations.	The author attempts to demonstrate an understanding of the relevance of the theme to BOTH self and future generations.	The author demonstrates an understanding of the relevance of the theme to self or future generations, but does not address both.	The author fails to demonstrate an understanding of the relevance of the theme to self and future generations.
<b>Democratic Values</b>	The author's purpose of writing clearly demonstrates a strong understanding of Democratic values.	The author's purpose of writing demonstrates some understanding of Democratic values.	The author's purpose of writing attempts to demonstrate an understanding of Democratic values, but falls short.	The author's purpose of writing demonstrates little or no understanding of Democratic values.
<b>Focus and Details</b>	There is one clear, well-focused topic. Main ideas are clear and well supported by detailed and accurate information.	There is one clear, well-focused topic. Main ideas are clear but are not well supported by detailed information.	There is one topic. Main ideas are somewhat clear.	The topic and main ideas are not clear.
<b>Organization</b>	The introduction provides: an overview of the paper, relevant information and is presented in a logical order. The conclusion is strong.	The paper is missing ONE of these: an overview, relevant information, logical order and/or a conclusion.	The paper is missing MORE THAN ONE of these: an overview, relevant information, logical order and/or conclusion.	There is no clear introduction, structure, or a conclusion.
<b>Sentence Structure, Grammar, Mechanics and Spelling</b>	The author makes no errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	The author makes a few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling, but they do not interfere with understanding.	The author makes several errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.	The author makes numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.
<b>SOURCES</b>	Sources are exceptionally well-integrated and effectively support claims in the paper's argument. Quotations and Work Cited conform to the correct style. (MLA).	Sources are well integrated and support the paper's claims. There may be occasional errors, but the sources and Works Cited conform to the correct style (MLA).	Sources support some claims made in the essay, but might not be integrated well within the paper's argument. There may be a few errors in the style (MLA).	Sources are not integrated well. They are not cited correctly according to style (MLA). They are not listed correctly on the Work Cited page.