

Stim Bullitt Civic Courage Scholarship Judging Rubric: Participants are asked to describe and analyze an act of civic courage by an individual or identifiable group of individuals in Washington State, and to address the following questions: why did this act constitute civic courage? How did this act impact our community, region, or state? What were the risks (professional, political, and/or personal) associated with this action? Use the rubric to guide your essay writing on the worthiness of the subject, content, and persuasiveness.

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Thesis and main points: <i>Clearly state your claim defining civic courage</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compelling intro, grabs reader’s attention Thesis is clear and concise, and directly addresses prompt Definition of civic courage is introduced towards the beginning of the essay as part of the essay’s central claim Definition of civic courage is thoughtful and well-developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thoughtful intro Thesis is clear and directly addresses prompt Definition of civic courage is presented towards beginning of essay Definition is clear and complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduces topic, but without clear sense of purpose Thesis present but unclear and/or does not clearly address prompt Definition of civic courage is presented, but might lack clarity or sense of purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intro absent or fails to show understanding of topic Thesis is unclear or not present Definition of civic courage is vague and/or left for reader to infer
Organization and Style: <i>Your claim of the subject’s civic courage should flow throughout your essay</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Argument flows logically and coherently Smooth and elegant prose, with varied and interesting sentences Compelling conclusion shows serious reflection and thought on issues, explores implications of ideas presented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Argument flows logically Competent, clear prose Conclusion shows thought and reflection on issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reader can follow argument, but lacks flow or logic is unclear Some issues with clarity of expression Conclusion present but mostly a summary, lacking reflection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficult to follow argument Prose at times difficult to understand Conclusion either absent or fails to show understanding of issues
Use of Sources: <i>Journals, online research (articles and videos)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses at least 3 varied and credible sources, properly paraphrased and quoted Sources and quotes seamlessly integrated to support argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses at least 3 varied and credible sources, properly paraphrased and quoted Sources and quotes integrated into argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses at least 3 varied sources, but there may be issues with quality of source Somewhat awkward integration of sources/quotes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lacks 3 sources or sources lack credibility Lacks quotations and/or proper paraphrasing
Development of Ideas: <i>Write about your subject’s civic courage using evidence and persuasive reasoning, rather than a summary of their life.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes clear, consistent connections between the definition of civic courage and the individual/group chosen Provides substantial evidence to support choice of individual/group Analysis of evidence clearly, logically, and persuasively supports claims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes clear connections between the definition of civic courage and the individual/group chosen Provides evidence to support choice of individual/group At least some deeper analysis of evidence with solid reasoning that supports claims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connections between a definition of civic courage and the individual/group chosen may be weak or unclear Evidence presented, but at times either skimpy or minimally explained in relation to main argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explanations and logic difficult to follow Connections between ideas are not articulated Evidence is thin or lacks explanation Depicts more of a description of activities/events/life of the subject as opposed to analysis

Conventions: <i>Grammar,</i> <i>mechanics,</i> <i>and spelling</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling• Citations and Works Cited page complete and correctly formatted (preferably, MLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling• Citations and Works Cited page mostly correctly complete and correctly formatted (preferably, MLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic conventions followed, but with some errors in grammar, mechanics and/or spelling• Citations and Works Cited page show errors in completion or format (preferably, MLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling• Missing or incorrectly formatted citations and Works Cited Page
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