Grading Rubric for 500 word essays

0 – not submitted

1-4 – incomplete essay (much less than 500 words, e.g., only one paragraph). No evidence of comprehension of reading materials, only restates a few facts.

5-6 – shows some evidence of comprehending and reflecting on the reading materials, but thesis not clearly stated upfront.

7-8 - shows strong evidence of comprehending and reflecting on the reading materials, and thesis clearly stated upfront. They may show some degree of originality in their thesis, or opinions.

9-10 – shows strong evidence of comprehending and reflecting on the reading materials, and thesis clearly stated upfront. The essay contains a high degree of originality, well-expressed opinions, and shows a clear, well-read understanding of the topic.

Excess word counts will be penalized by -1 point for every 100 words over the limit.