Name: _____

Davis Squad College Essay Scoring Rubric

Category	Points	Comments
Purpose: Is the purpose or intention of this personal statement clearly conveyed? Is the desired outcome effectively communicated?	/5	▪ Addresses the prompt ▪ Addresses the prompt but needs more details on key areas ▪ Marginally addresses the prompt; needs specific focus. ▪ Off-topic or too vague.
Organization: Is the personal statement structured in a logical manner? Is it structured appropriately for the intended audience? Is anything out of place?	/5	▪ Introduction has thesis that addresses the prompts. ▪ Introduction lacks thesis or is vague about the prompts ▪ Body paragraphs have topic sentences that are logical and fully developed. ▪ Body paragraphs are imbalanced and need more development/ clear topic sentences. ▪ Body paragraphs lack coherence, direction, topic sentences.
Content: Is the entirety of the content pertinent? Does the personal statement contain any "filler" or superfluous information?	/10	▪ Content offers significant information about the writer. ▪ Uses examples (cited accomplishments, talents, qualities, etc. are clearly supported by concrete examples) as support. ▪ Content is somewhat weak and writer needs more focus on key points/areas for discussion. ▪ Content is off-topic, vague, unfocused, or generic.
Individuality: Does the piece effectively distinguish the author from other applicants? Is the author memorable and remarkable for the right reasons?	/10	▪ Writer has a clear voice/presence through detailed focus on experience, activities, background, etc; topics show originality/insights/personality. ▪ Writer offers details but does not leave a strong impression. ▪ Writer does not leave a dominant impression because the information is dull, vague, or lacking in examples.
Mechanics: Is the piece grammatically sound? Are there any misspellings and/or typos? Are there errors in structure and/or punctuation?	/5	▪ Verb usage errors ▪ Pronoun reference/agreement errors ▪ Spelling/diction ▪ Commas ▪ Sentence construction errors ▪ Slang expressions ▪ Other:
Revision: Has the piece been ***significantly*** revised from the rough draft version? Has the writer made thoughtful changes to improve the piece as a whole?	/30	▪ Content both shows and tells ▪ Vivid details and examples (including anecdotes) support the essay's thesis ▪ Unnecessary words/sentences/points have been eliminated ▪ The piece is cohesive and truly presents the writer's persona

Total = _____ /65