

Rubric for Case Analyses (20 points each)

Area	Target	Acceptable	Not acceptable
Introduction (3 points)	Concisely, accurately, and clearly states the (a) general issue (e.g., LRE, FAPE, discipline) and (b) the essential facts of the case. Concisely tells the story of the case (not the decision, just what actually happened, on which the courts must base their ruling).	Accurately states the (a) general issue (e.g., LRE, FAPE, discipline) and (b) the essential facts of the case -- not the decision, just what actually happened, on which the courts must base their ruling).	Does not accurately state either the (a) general issue (e.g., LRE, FAPE, discipline) or (b) the essential facts of the case.
Lower Court Decision(s) (2 points)	Concisely and accurately describes the decision of the lower court(s). What was the ruling(s)? Who did the lower court(s) rule for? Briefly indicates the rationale for the ruling(s).	Accurately states the decision of the lower court(s). What was the ruling(s)? Who did the lower court(s) rule for?	Does not accurately state the decision of the lower court(s).
Appeal Issue (2 points)	Concisely, accurately, and clearly describes the primary issue(s) raised on the highest level of appeal.	Accurately states the primary issue(s) raised on the highest level of appeal. On what basis was the lower court's ruling appealed?	Does not accurately states the primary issue(s) raised on the highest level of appeal.
Ruling and Scope (3 points)	Concisely, accurately, and clearly describes the rule of the case, the jurisdiction of the court, and the population addressed by the court. What did the court rule, and to whom does the ruling apply?	Accurately states the rule of the case, the jurisdiction of the court, and the population addressed by the court. What did the court rule, and to whom does the ruling apply?	Does not accurately states the rule of the case, identify the jurisdiction of the court, and/or the population addressed by the court.
Rationale (3 points)	Concisely, accurately, and clearly explains why the court arrived at its holding.	Accurately explains the gist of the court ruling. Why did the court arrive at its holding?	Does not accurately explain the gist of the court ruling.
Dissenting Opinion(s) (2 points)	Concisely, accurately, and clearly explains the primary issue(s) on which the dissenting judge(s) disagreed with the majority opinion.	Accurately identifies the primary issue(s) on which the dissenting judge(s) disagreed with the majority opinion.	Does not accurately identify the primary issue(s) on which the dissenting judge(s) disagreed with the majority opinion.
Implications (3 points)	Concisely, accurately, and clearly explains in own words why case is important. Who does it affect? Identifies potential positive and negative implications.	Accurately states in own words why case is important. Who does it affect? How does it affect them?	Does not accurately state implications of case.
Writing and Organization (2 points)	Few to no grammatical, spelling, and other writing errors, but do not affect meaning. Uses headings to organize paper. Greater than 2 pages or less than 5 pages (double spaced).	Some grammatical, spelling, and other writing errors, but do not affect meaning. Uses headings to organize paper. Greater than 2 pages or less than 5 pages (double spaced).	Many grammatical, spelling, and other writing errors that affect meaning. Does not use headings to organize paper. Less than 2 pages or greater than 5 pages (double spaced).