**Mandala Autobiography: Rubric**

The following rubric should give you ideas about writing and evaluating Mandala autobiography papers.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Very Effective*** | ***Effective*** | ***Somewhat Effective*** | ***Ineffective*** |
| Mandala includes at least five symbols that represent unique/varied aspects of the writer and/or his/her life | Mandala includes at least five symbols that represent important aspects of the writer and/or his/her life | Mandala includes five symbols that represent aspects of the writer and/or his/her life, but some aspects seem to lack importance or appear to be redundant | Mandala is underdeveloped and/or incomplete |
| Mandala demonstrates symbolic purpose and is visually appealing | Mandala is creative and visually appealing | Mandala displays symbols, but lacks detail and/or visual appeal | Mandala displays few, if any, symbols and lacks visual appeal |
| the Mandala’s connecting design is purposeful and unifies the Mandala | the Mandala’s connecting design is unique and enhances the overall Mandala | the Mandala’s connecting design is evident, but does not enhance the overall Mandala | the Mandala has no connecting design |
| essay thoroughly describes and explains the symbols contained in the Mandala | essay describes and explains the symbols contained in the Mandala | essay attempts to describe and explain the symbols contained in the Mandala; some symbols may be more developed than others | essay describes and/or explains some aspects of the writer but the description/explanation is not connected with specific symbols or the description and explanation are underdeveloped |
| essay uses strong sensory details to bring each symbol to life | essay includes details associated with the symbols | essay includes some details, but more are needed to truly understand the significance of each symbol | essay does not include enough detail to clarify each symbol or clearly convey what is significant to the writer |
| essay organization creates a wholeness for the essay; well crafted transitions unify ideas and propel the reader forward | essay organization is logical; transitions unify ideas and help the essay to flow | essay organization lacks logic and creates some confusion; transitions do not always link ideas; paper may seem choppy | essay organization is confusing; transitions are inappropriate or are missing |
| contains richly detailed sensory images and varied vocabulary | contains sensory images and appropriate vocabulary | contains workable but not fully effective vocabulary | contains simple and/or incorrect vocabulary that interferes with communication |
| contains varied sentence structure | contains sound sentence structure | sentence structure demonstrates problems and/or lacks variety | sentence structure problems interfere with communication |
| has few, if any, mechanical errors | may have some mechanical errors, but none that interfere with understanding | has some mechanical errors that interfere with understanding | has many mechanical errors that interfere with understanding |