

# Online Discussion Forums Rubric

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## Discussion rubric

Your grade on the discussion forums will be part of your participation grade for each six weeks. You will receive grade from 1-10 based on the rubric below. You must make at least one post, for each discussion forum on the Ning for your class; however you choose to respond directly to my initial post or to the posts of your peers or both, unless I specify otherwise in the original post. The key is to be thoughtful in your answers.

It is clear that some of you are “expert posters.” For others, this may be a relatively new academic experience.

### **A few important things to remember:**

- You are supposed to respond to the entirety of the question.
- You must use evidence to give an informed opinion. This can be evidence from the provided links, from in-class discussions, your textbook or your own experiences.
- Remember that you will be engaging in a discussion with ALL of the students enrolled in Psych 1 or HOA, not just the members of your particular class.
- Misuse of the discussion board can result in disciplinary action.

### **Score Description**

- **9 or 10 marks:** A well-written and insightful posting—almost perfect. I’m looking for original ideas here. Quality, not quantity, is the issue with getting a good score in discussions. However, because this is a discussion assignment, one- or two-sentence postings are probably not enough. *Please back up your opinions with textual support* or examples from personal experience, history, etc. (whatever is appropriate here). Few if any spelling or grammatical errors. The posting is structured in a logical way. You have responded thoughtfully to someone else’s posting.
- **8 marks:** Still a well-written and insightful posting, however, could be improved upon. Limited reference to the original text/film or discussion. The posting may need more elaboration. There may be a few spelling or grammatical errors but not enough to detract from what is written. Posting shows the student has a grasp of the topic/content being discussed. Though an attempt was made to respond to someone else’s posting, the response is not well explained.
- **7 marks:** Completed the assignment with average results. It may be that grammatical and spelling mistakes are numerous enough to detract from the meaning and content of what is being written and discussed. Structure of content is difficult to follow or the progression of thought might not flow well. There is no direct reference to the original text, film, or discussion. There is also no response to someone else’s posting.
- **6 marks:** Did not meet the minimum requirements of the assignment but still put some effort and thought into it. Perhaps did not follow instructions for a discussion assignment.
- **5 marks:** Did the assignment just to get it done. Obvious to me that the person put little or no thought into the posting.
- **0 marks:** Did not complete the assignment by the assigned due date. Showed disrespect