



## Research Paper & Reflective Essay Rubrics



### General Guidelines:

The Val Tech Research Paper/Reflective Essay Coordinator and the Val Tech Coordinator expect all V-TIP papers (research papers and reflective essays) to be well written and handed in on time. Your grade will suffer if you do not meet these criteria. You are strongly encouraged to contact the Val Tech LA-4 teacher in a timely manner if you have any questions or concerns.

You must provide three copies of your research paper and three copies of your reflective essay to the Presentation Committee *before* your final presentation. Each document should have a store-bought, professional-looking cover of your choice.

### Research Paper (First Semester or Second Semester)

Val Tech students who enroll in the regular LA-4 classes will complete the research paper in their Language Arts class during the second semester. All other Val Tech students (taking AP or IB LA-4) will receive a packet outlining the assignment, and their research papers are due during the first semester as determined by the Val Tech Research Paper Coordinator.

### Reflective Essay (Second Semester)

All Val Tech students (taking regular, AP, or IB LA-4) will receive a packet outlining the assignment, and their reflective essays are due during the second semester as determined by the Val Tech Reflective Essay Coordinator. The following questions suggest the kind of information to be included in both the reflective essay and the final V-TIP presentation (see page 24 of the Val Tech Internship book for presentation specifics):

Which Val Tech classes did you take during your four years at VHS?

What other classes helped prepare you for the future?

1. What was your favorite/most helpful class?
2. What was your least favorite/hardest class?

Describe your internship experience.

1. Why did you choose your internship?
2. In what ways did your VHS classes help prepare you for your 150-hour internship? Give two or three specific examples.
3. Why are you better prepared for your career as a result of doing this internship? Again, give two or three specifics.
4. What did you learn about your career of choice during your internship? Address the following topics:
  - What kind of technology do you need to know how to use?
  - What skills and abilities are required?
  - What responsibilities/tasks are involved?
  - What is the outlook for the future job market and what are the potential earnings (starting salary as well as career path)?
  - What kinds of education, training, and/or licenses are required?
  - What advice did your internship host offer?
  - What steps to success did your host outline for you?

What aspect of your internship experience most surprised/challenged/ interested/ motivated you? Share your reaction to your time in the business world.



## Rubric for Val Tech Research Paper

<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>Respond to the prompt!!!!</b>	
Introduction contains thesis statement	
Paragraphs begin with a topic sentence	
Paragraphs develop the topic sentence	
Flow of ideas is logical	
Ideas in thesis statement are supported	
<b>MECHANICS</b>	<b>30 points</b>
Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation	
Sentence structure (no fragments or run-ons)	
<b>FORMAT</b>	<b>10 points</b>
Header: full name/teacher's name/class title/date	
Title	
Pagination with last name (upper right-hand corner)	
Double-spaced with no extra space between paragraphs	
Neat, clean, 12-point legible font	
<b>DOCUMENTATION</b>	<b>10 points</b>
In-text citations where necessary: author's last name/page #	
No plagiarism	
Works Cited page: correct format and items listed match the items cited in the text	
<b>150 points possible</b>	

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## Rubric for Val Tech Reflective Essay

<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>Respond to the prompt!!!!</b>	
Introduction contains thesis statement	
Paragraphs begin with a topic sentence	
Paragraphs develop the topic sentence	
Flow of ideas is logical	
Ideas in thesis statement are supported	
<b>MECHANICS</b>	<b>40 points</b>
Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation	
Sentence structure (no fragments or run-ons)	
<b>FORMAT</b>	<b>10 points</b>
Header: full name/teacher's name/class title/date	
Title	
Pagination with last name (upper right-hand corner)	
Double-spaced with no extra space between paragraphs	
Neat, clean, 12-point legible font	
<b>150 points possible</b>	