WRITE ON SCORE SHEET
2016 Write On Competition

Judge Number _____________________________  Paper Number _____________________________

TOTAL SCORE: ____________________________
(out of a possible 45 points)

ANALYSIS  15 points

➤ Content: refers to what the court says
✓ States or makes apparent the thesis or theme
✓ Identifies legal and policy issues
✓ Focuses on the case; arguments and analysis react to the case being analyzed; the case is not incidental to the author’s comment
✓ Tackles counter arguments
✓ Chooses one side or argues one side
✓ Avoids restating what court said (not a book report)
✓ Integrates other cases, secondary sources into argument

➤ Support: contains appropriate use of sources
✓ Makes a coherent argument and supports it
✓ Persuades, using logical and convincing reasoning
✓ Utilizes sources provided in support of conclusions
✓ Uses paragraphs with thesis statements that guide reader through analysis

➤ Scope: avoids irrelevant issues
✓ Avoids wasteful discussions such as collateral issues and excessive background

Total:

STRUCTURE  10 points

➤ Organization: overall order makes sense
✓ Introduces issue and gives reader a preview of what will be discussed
✓ Uses logical structure
✓ Makes structure apparent, e.g., Part II follows Part I for identifiable reasons; or analysis moves from introduction to road map to analysis and conclusion
✓ Follows stated structure in paper
✓ Briefly concludes at paper’s end, tying together all relevant points; conclusion reflects actual arguments

➤ Mid-level organization: internal order makes sense
✓ Uses headings and sub-headings to guide reader through analysis
✓ Uses topic sentences, concluding sentences, and transitions to connect one idea to the next
✓ Structures paragraphs carefully, putting sentences in identifiable order
✓ Makes paragraphs manageable, i.e., less than one page so that too many ideas do not get lost in one paragraph
✓ Makes thesis statement reappear or reminds reader of connection of smaller points to overall theme

➤ Small-scale organization: sentences work
✓ Uses subject-verb combinations to propel the argument
✓ Makes syntax reflect meaning, e.g., lists use parallel structure, dependent ideas use dependent clauses
✓ Uses appropriate word order

Total:
BLUE BOOKING  
10 points

➤ Substance: cites properly support statements
➤ Uses footnotes for support of argument and for streamlining text
➤ Uses signals correctly
➤ Uses supra’s, infra’s correctly
➤ Uses parentheticals correctly

➤ Form: strictly follows the Bluebook
➤ Uses italics, small caps, etc. correctly
➤ Uses spacing, format, abbreviations correctly

TOTAL: ____________

CREATIVITY  
2 points

➤ Makes a novel argument
➤ Uses catchy, yet relevant, title
➤ Offers creative solutions

TOTAL: ____________

ADMINISTRATIVE PRECISION  
8 points

➤ Proofreading: shows meticulous finishing
➤ Uses correct grammar
➤ Uses correct margins
➤ Uses correct font
➤ Contains no spelling errors

➤ Rules: follows all competition rules regarding format
(Make a note of a student’s failure to observe the rules in the Comments section below as some journals will not accept the student’s work.)
➤ Times [New Roman] 12 point: 7 double spaced pages without footnotes (26 lines per page)
➤ 3 pages maximum of endnotes
➤ Endnotes are single spaced with double spaces between individual endnotes (52 lines per page)
➤ Margins are one inch (1”)

TOTAL: ____________

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Comments: