

**Writing Rubric, SPAN and ITAL 1000-level courses, 2009-2010**  
**University of Virginia, Department of Spanish, Italian & Portuguese**

**Name:**

**Grade:**

	Exceeds expectations 20-18 points	Meets expectations 17.5-16 points	Approaches expectations 15.5-14 points	Does not meet expectations 13.5-10 points
Content – Main Idea and Support/Evidence  _____ / 20 points	Excellent main idea that corresponds directly to topic & thoroughly answers the question(s) posed; thoughtful, creative, original, and/or insightful content; supporting ideas are valid and specific; ideas work together as a unified whole; not repetitive	Very good main idea and well-developed supporting ideas; answers the question(s) posed; support is sound, valid, and logical; adequate cohesion of ideas; some effort at creativity or originality; some repetitive material	Main idea is unclear or too broad; supporting ideas are limited, non-specific, and/or irrelevant; inconsistent cohesion of ideas; repetition; lack of originality or creativity	Main idea is missing or not discernible; inadequate support for main points; ideas are simplistic, showing signs of confusion, misunderstanding of the prompt; no cohesion of ideas; illogical generalizations; wordiness & repetition
Organization  _____ / 20 points	Essay structure is appropriate for question prompt; logical sequence of ideas; compelling intro and conclusion; well-developed and structured paragraphs; smooth and effective transitions	Essay structure is mostly appropriate for question prompt; sequence of ideas is evident; solid paragraph structure, intro and conclusion; lack of effective transitions	Limited and/or unsuccessful attempts at organization; paragraphs are simple, disconnected; no transitions; unclear sequencing of ideas	Organization, if evident at all, is confusing and disjointed; weak or missing intro, conclusion, and/or paragraph structure; transitions are missing; illogical sequencing of ideas
Grammar  _____ / 20 points	Wide variety of structures used; mastery of grammar appropriate for this level; very few grammatical errors; errors do not impede comprehension	Good variety of structures used; good mastery of grammar studied; most errors likely careless; errors do not impede comprehension	Little or no variety of structures; overuse of most simple structures; significant errors; some interference of English; meaning confused or obscured	Many errors inappropriate for this level; no evidence of control of grammar; significant interference of English; errors impede comprehension
Lexicon  _____ / 20 points	Extensive variety for this level; effective word choice and usage; word form mastery	Good vocabulary variety; mostly accurate word choice and usage and formation	Frequent errors of usage and word form; meaning confused; some English interference or English word use	Limited range; incorrect choices in word usage; no evidence of word form mastery; English interference or English word use prevalent
Orthography  _____ / 20 points	Virtually free of spelling, punctuation, accentuation, and capitalization errors	Only occasional errors of spelling, punctuation, accentuation, and/or capitalization; errors are careless	Frequent errors of spelling, punctuation, accentuation, and/or capitalization	Many and serious errors of spelling, punctuation, accentuation, and/or capitalization; at times incomprehensible