

# ***MISSOURI SCHOLARS ACADEMY EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT ESSAYS***

## **HONEST EXPRESSION**

Says things in a natural language; uses words precisely but not for their emotional impact or to impress; appears as a real person, conveying a sense of his/her personality in a sincere and believable fashion; uses no jargon and few totally idealistic terms.

## **GRAMMAR, MECHANICS, USAGE, NEATNESS**

Neatly written or typed; has no typing or spelling errors; has no errors in punctuation or usage; perfect mechanics.

## **SENTENCE VARIETY**

Shows an ability to use several patterns of sentences; uses a variety of complex sentences; demonstrates that he/she can show several ideas held together at once in one sentence.

## **COHERENCE**

Flows clearly from one idea to another; meaning is always perfectly clear; has a distinct and logical structure, including paragraphing; paper demonstrates distinct transitions.

## **CREATIVITY/ORIGINALITY**

Makes interesting observations or conclusions; expresses originality in ideas, a fresh or interesting way of looking at the norm.

## **THOROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF IDEAS**

Explains in detail; gives concrete and specific examples; shows experience rather than just telling it; conveys the impact of the experience and its complex meaning.