

## Travel essay #2: Brooklyn

---

**Due: January 8, 2018**

In a travel essay (also called a travelogue), the place you visit or journey you go on is just the beginning—the essay is really about what you discover about people, life, or yourself on that journey or in that place.

As you write, think about why the place you've gone or experience you've had is worth writing about. What makes it meaningful to you?

A travel essay is not just a description of a place (although it includes descriptions) and is not just a record of what you did (although that's probably going to be in there, too). A travel essay includes 3 things:

A description of a place or journey: What did you see, what did you hear, what did you smell, what did you taste, and/or what did you feel?	+	How your experience helps you understand the world, people, life, or yourself more clearly	+	Why it matters that you had this experience or understanding
---	---	--	---	--

Your essay may be of any length or format that you choose—you can be creative with how you share your travel experiences! The most important thing is that your essay is interesting, shows your observations AND your insights, and captures the significance of your journey.

Finally, give your essay a title that shows what you're going to talk about in an exciting way.

## Travel Essay #2 – Rubric (staple to the front of your draft)

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Title</b>	<b>Strong</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>O.K.</b>	<b>Weak</b>	Points: ___/10
A strong/good title is engaging, accurate, avoids clichés, and is not too long.					
<b>Structure</b>	<b>Strong</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>O.K.</b>	<b>Weak</b>	Points: ___/10
A strong/good essay presents a logical flow of ideas and avoids straying or meandering; a strong/good paragraph remains focused on a single main idea, and all sentences within a paragraph support its main idea.					
<b>Use of technical vocabulary</b>	<b>Strong</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>O.K.</b>	<b>Weak</b>	Points: ___/10
A strong/good essay uses discipline-specific vocabulary appropriately and accurately.					
<b>Written skill</b>	<b>Strong</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>O.K.</b>	<b>Weak</b>	Points: ___/10
A strong/good essay is well-organized and generally contains correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling; a strong/good essay demonstrates appropriate and effective word choice and style; in a strong/good essay, the prose is easy to follow, precise, and clear; a strong/good essay avoids both vagueness and redundancy; a good/strong essay avoids inaccuracies; a strong/good essay analyzes rather than summarizes.					
<b>Travel experience: Description</b>	<b>Strong</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>O.K.</b>	<b>Weak</b>	Points: ___/10
A strong/good essay uses at least one specific description of a sensory experience to support the essay that is interesting, relevant, specific, sufficient, and directly connected to the main idea; strong/good examples support your argument explicitly; any musical examples are accurately described.					
<b>Travel experience: Understanding</b>	<b>Strong</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>O.K.</b>	<b>Weak</b>	Points: ___/10
A strong/good essay addresses the travel experience by showing how it leads to further understanding of the world, life, people, or the author in a way that is insightful rather than vague or superficial; a strong/good essay goes beyond the superficial by thoughtfully incorporating comparison, contrast, and/or synthesis; a strong/good essay addresses the implication of the ideas under consideration.					
<b>Travel experience: Significance</b>	<b>Strong</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>O.K.</b>	<b>Weak</b>	Points: ___/10
A strong/good essay shows the importance, impact, or significance of the experience described in a way that is interesting, thoughtful, and directly connected to the travel experience described.					

Total points \_\_\_\_\_/70

Letter grade: \_\_\_\_\_