

An "A" Paper

Grammatically, Stylistically:

- Will have a thesis which will be stated in the opening paragraph of the paper
- Will defend the thesis in the body of the paper
- Will have the paper broken up into appropriate paragraphs, each with a topic sentence
- Will be proofread for spelling or grammatical errors (A good way to improve the style of your paper is to read it to yourself aloud. If there are any sections that sound awkward, they should be revised.)
- Will have a conclusion

In Content

- Will have a thesis that is non-obvious/non-trivial
- Will not be superficial, but show a deep and thorough knowledge of the course material
- Will connect with the larger themes of the course
- Will support its claims with specific evidence from class material (i.e. quotations)
- Will provide commentary on why the quote is important
- will not have long quotes without explanation
- Will demonstrate higher order critical thinking skills, such as analyzing, evaluating, creating (i.e. will be more than just a summary of the material)
- Will have a logical structure the reader can follow