

# Descriptive Words/Phrases for Adjudicators

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## Content

layered meaning  
evoke emotion  
thought provoking  
persuasive arguments  
credible evidence  
balanced perspective  
timely source  
coherent  
cohesive  
nuanced  
dynamic  
cutting  
defined central narrative  
compelling plot  
range  
clever  
combination  
compilation  
unified  
convincing  
proficient  
mastered  
insightful  
wealth

## Effective Presentation

effective tactic(s)  
executed thoughtfully  
drew me in  
expressive  
articulate  
believable  
characterized  
credible performance  
committed character  
energetic  
lively  
animated  
honest  
genuine  
realistic  
authentic  
natural  
understated  
whimsical  
rhetorical  
passion  
vivacious  
vigor  
intimate

## Developing/Improving

artificial  
awkward  
broad / vague  
faulty  
flawed  
hindered  
incoherent  
misguided  
monotonous  
repetitive  
scarce  
absent  
incomplete  
lacks  
reassess structure  
requires  
potential  
pulled me out  
distracted  
gimmicky  
gratuitous  
incongruous  
reevaluate motives  
identify purpose

*Avoid vague terms:* good • great • weak • needs work • practice more  
*Instead, tell them:* exactly what they did well; how they should improve;  
specific ineffective aspects of their presentation