**For a “A” paper:**  
*Scientific Content* (30%)*:* Scientific summaries accurately reflect the science in article with coherence for a broad audience. Science is interesting (perhaps even exciting), easily relatable, even memorable.   
*Style* (30%)*:* Science writing is stylistically appropriate for a broad, general audience. Ambiguous terms or jargon effectively defined or complex terms are replaced by simpler alternatives, where appropriate. Language and style are consistent with the genre (geared towards broad audience, causal, active voice, punctuated by clarity and creative use of metaphors and/or analogies to effectively illustrate explanation of science or scientific terms).  Author uses interesting, even memorable anecdotes, scenarios to elaborate the science.  
*Language* (10%)*:* Clear grammar (few or no (easily fixable) errors.  
*Organization* (15%)*:* Clear, interesting organization (effective (colorful) set-ups using anecdotes, thoughtful commentary, interesting questions)—paragraphs flow with astute use of transitional words or phrases.  
*Formal Components* (15%)*:* Essay has all of the following: catching title (and/or subtitles), useful visual components (graphs, charts, photographs with appropriate captions), effective external links, and appropriate (and correct) citations.

**For a “B” paper:**  
*Scientific Content:* Scientific summaries accurately reflect the science in article with coherence for a broad audience. Science is interesting and relatable to a broad, general audience.  
*Style:* Science writing is stylistically appropriate for a broad, general audience. Ambiguous terms or jargon appropriately defined or complex terms are replaced by simpler alternatives, where appropriate. Language and style are consistent with the genre (geared towards broad audience, causal, active voice, punctuated by clarity and interesting (perhaps even creative) use of metaphors and/or analogies to illustrate explanation of science or scientific terms).  Author uses appropriate anecdotes, scenarios to elaborate the science.  
*Language:* Clear grammar (relatively few errors, errors that are easily fixable).  
*Organization:* Clear, interesting organization (appropriate set-ups using anecdotes, thoughtful commentary, interesting questions)—paragraphs flow with use of transitions.  
*Formal Components:* Essay has all of the following: catching title (and/or subtitles), applicable visual components (graphs, charts, photographs with appropriate captions), sufficient external links, and appropriate (and correct) citation

**For a “C” paper:**  
*Scientific Content:* Scientific summaries may not accurately reflect the science in article with coherence for a broad audience, but does so partially. Science is understandable but not interesting or easily relatable to a broad, general audience.  
*Style:* Science writing is not consistently stylistically appropriate for a broad, general audience. Ambiguous terms or jargon are defined, but may still be confusing or complex terms are always effectively replaced by simpler alternatives, where appropriate. Language and style are not always consistent with the genre (may be too specialized, too causal, or uses passive instead of active voice, sometimes unclear. Writing has no (or ineffective) use of metaphors and/or analogies to illustrate explanation of science or scientific terms).  Author uses appropriate anecdotes, scenarios to elaborate the science.  
*Language:* Grammar sometimes unclear or has many (and consistent) errors or errors that are not easily fixable.  
*Organization:* Organization is clear, but may be flawed (there’s a clear arrangement that would be more effective). May not have appropriate set-ups using anecdotes, commentary, questions—paragraphs may have ineffective transitions.  
*Formal Components:* Essay has all of the following: title (and/or subtitles), visual components (graphs, charts, photographs with appropriate captions), sufficient external links, and appropriate (but not entirely correct) citation.

**For a “D” paper:**  
*Scientific Content:* Scientific summaries may not accurately reflect the science in article with coherence for a broad audience. Science is not always understandable or easily relatable to a broad, general audience.  
*Style:* Science writing is not stylistically appropriate for a broad, general audience. Ambiguous terms or jargon are not always defined or defined ineffectively, or may still be confusing or complex terms are not always effectively replaced by simpler alternatives. Language and style are not consistent with the genre (may be too specialized, too causal, or uses passive, and is often unclear. Writing has no (or ineffective) use of metaphors and/or analogies to illustrate explanation of science or scientific terms).  Author does not use appropriate anecdotes, scenarios to elaborate the science.  
*Language:* Grammar is unclear or has many consistent errors or errors that hinder meaning.  
*Organization:* Organization is clear, but may be flawed (there’s a clear arrangement that would be more effective). May not have appropriate set-ups using anecdotes, commentary, questions—paragraphs may have ineffective transitions.  
*Formal Components:* Essay is missing one or more of the following: title (and/or subtitles), visual components (graphs, charts, photographs with appropriate captions), sufficient external links, and appropriate (but not entirely correct) citation

**For a “F” paper: (what not to do)**  
*Scientific Content:* Scientific summaries does not accurately reflect the science in article with coherence for a broad audience.   
*Style:* Science writing is not stylistically inappropriate for a broad, general audience. Ambiguous terms or jargon are not defined or defined ineffectively. Language and style are inconsistent with the genre (may be too specialized, too causal, or uses passive, or is unclear. Writing has no/ineffective or inappropriate use of metaphors, analogies, anecdotes to illustrate explanation of science or scientific terms).   
*Language:* Grammar is unclear or has many consistent errors or errors that hinder meaning.  
*Organization:* Organization is unclear, but may be flawed (there’s a clear arrangement that would be more effective). Does not have appropriate set-ups using anecdotes, commentary, questions—paragraphs may have ineffective transitions.  
*Formal Components:* Essay is missing several of the following: title (and/or subtitles), visual components (graphs, charts, photographs with appropriate captions), sufficient external links, and appropriate (but not entirely correct) citation.