Essay Grading Sheet
Physics 131/161: How Things Work
Spring 2011

I: The Physics

☐ A complete discussion of the physical principles and issues involved in the object or activity.
☐ Many physical issues involved in the object are discussed.
☐ Some of the physical issues involved in the object are discussed.
☐ Physical issues involved in how the object works are rarely discussed.
☐ This essay never discusses the physical issues that make the object work.

II: Achievements of the essay

☐ A well-written essay. The essay is easy to read.
☐ A nicely packaged essay. The essay is packaged in a way that makes it fun and interesting.
☐ A thorough essay. The essay is well thought out and gives a complete picture of how the object or activity works.

III: Flaws in the essay

☐ Too much description. Some description is necessary, but it shouldn’t dominate the essay.
☐ Too much historical perspective. A small amount is fine, but this is not a history paper.
☐ Over packaged. In an effort to make the essay interesting, much of the physics was lost.
☐ Mistakes in application or understanding of the physical principles.
☐ Mistakes in grammar and/or spelling.
☐ Poorly written. Sentence structure is awkward and confusing or overly simplistic.
☐ Too long. More than 500 words.
☐ Too short. Less than 300 words.