### Rubric for Writing Assignment 2

Note: The audience for explanations is students in MATH 3012. Keep in mind your classmates have a variety of majors.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Informativeness</th>
<th>Depth</th>
<th>Spelling, grammar, and punctuation</th>
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| **5**           | • Clearly describes the problem at a level appropriate to the audience.  
• Clearly describes at least one reason combinatorial methods are used. (Likely by describing an obstruction to other/traditional methods.)  
• Clearly describes how methods from combinatorics are used to approach the problem.  
• Essay combines information from multiple sources.  
• Author demonstrates an exceptionally well-developed understanding of the problem and methods involved in solving it. | • Essay is well-organized.  
• Has no more than a few spelling, grammar, and/or punctuation errors, and these errors do not detract from the overall readability of the assignment. |
| **4**           | • Clearly describes the problem at a level appropriate to the audience.  
• Clearly describes at least one reason combinatorial methods are used.  
• Describes how methods from combinatorics are used to approach the problem, but lacks clarity or is written at the wrong level.  
• Essay combines information from multiple sources.  
• Author demonstrates an appropriately well-developed understanding of the problem and methods involved in solving it. | • Essay organization could use minor improvements to enhance readability.  
• Essay has no more than a few spelling, grammar, and/or punctuation errors, and these errors do not detract from the overall readability of the assignment. |
| **3**           | • Clearly describes the problem at a level appropriate to the audience.  
• Describes at least one reason combinatorial methods are used, but lacks clarity.  
• Describes how methods from combinatorics are used to approach the problem, but lacks clarity or is written at the wrong level.  
• Essay combines information from multiple sources but relies heavily on a single source.  
• Author demonstrates an appropriately well-developed understanding of the problem and methods involved in solving it. | • Essay organization could use minor improvements to enhance readability.  
• Enough spelling, grammar, and/or punctuation errors are present to distract the reader. |
| **2**           | • States the problem at a level appropriate to the audience.  
• States at least one reason combinatorial methods are used.  
• States methods from combinatorics used to approach the problem.  
• Essay relies almost exclusively on a single source.  
• Limitations of the author’s understanding of the problem and methods involved in solving it are apparent. | • Essay readability is compromised by organizational deficiencies.  
• Spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors are numerous enough to make the assignment difficult to read, but the reader is generally able to understand the assignment. |
| **1**           | Meets only two of the criteria required for a 2.  
• Essay relies almost exclusively on a single source.  
• Essay reflects that the author has a severely limited understanding of the problem and methods involved in solving it. | • Essay readability is severely compromised by organizational deficiencies.  
• Spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors are so pervasive that they severely compromise the reader’s ability to understand the assignment. |
| **0**           | Fails to meet the criteria to receive a 1.  
• Essay relies on a single source, presents material in a textbook manner, and/or demonstrates that the author has a significant misunderstanding of the problem and methods involved in solving it. | • Essay lacks any clear organization.  
• The reader questions whether the author has a grasp of basic English spelling, grammar, and punctuation due to the pervasiveness of errors. |

Overall score: 40% Informativeness; 40% Depth; and 20% Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation.

(The weighted average of rubric scores will be your score.)