

IMAGE CRITIQUE | SCORING RUBRIC

Instructor reference | Matching the 0-5 Student Critique worksheets

HOW TO USE

Score each domain independently, using the image evidence and the clinical task.

Use the descriptors as anchors, not as a requirement to observe every feature listed.

Do not infer an operator setting or system defect from image appearance alone.

GLOBAL SCALE

0 Unacceptable	1 Poor	2 Below expectations
3 Adequate	4 Good	5 Excellent

A. CLINICAL CONTENT & FIELD OF VIEW

- 0** Critical anatomy absent; task cannot be evaluated.
- 1** Relevant anatomy largely absent or improperly displayed.
- 2** Partial anatomy; major depth, plane, or orientation limits.
- 3** Required anatomy seen; minor framing or scale limitations.
- 4** Well-framed anatomy; only small presentation deficiencies.
- 5** Complete relevant anatomy, plane, orientation, and FOV optimized.

B. SPATIAL RESOLUTION

- 0** Important structures cannot be distinguished.
- 1** Severe loss of borders and fine anatomic detail.
- 2** Noticeable blurring; important small details poorly resolved.
- 3** Major interfaces defined; some fine-detail limitations.
- 4** Clear boundaries and good fine-detail discrimination.
- 5** Crisp interfaces; finest clinically relevant detail resolved.

C. CONTRAST RESOLUTION

- 0** Tissue differences not distinguishable for the task.
- 1** Markedly poor grayscale separation; severe masking.
- 2** Subtle tissue distinctions obscured by noise or poor mapping.
- 3** Useful grayscale differentiation; some subtle detail lost.
- 4** Good tissue discrimination and appropriate grayscale texture.
- 5** Excellent conspicuity of subtle tissue and low-level echo differences.

IMAGE CRITIQUE | SCORING RUBRIC

Criterion-specific performance anchors | 0 = unacceptable; 5 = excellent

D. PENETRATION & IMAGE UNIFORMITY

- 0 Target not penetrated or assessable at required depth.
- 1 Severe dropout or nonuniformity obscures most of the target.
- 2 Substantial deep signal loss or uneven brightness/detail.
- 3 Adequate target visibility; moderate depth-dependent limitations.
- 4 Good penetration and generally consistent visibility across FOV.
- 5 Required depth clearly visualized; highly consistent useful detail.

E. OPERATOR-CONTROLLED OPTIMIZATION

- 0 Settings prevent meaningful evaluation of the anatomy.
- 1 Major observable setting problems, uncorrected.
- 2 Several significant opportunities to optimize visible image.
- 3 Generally appropriate settings; improvement remains possible.
- 4 Settings well optimized for depth, gain, TGC, and focus.
- 5 Settings optimally support clinical task and image tradeoffs.

F. ARTIFACTS & DIAGNOSTIC IMPACT

- 0 Artifact or corruption prevents diagnostic interpretation.
- 1 Severe misleading or obscuring artifacts with major impact.
- 2 Artifacts substantially reduce confidence or visibility.
- 3 Artifacts present but do not prevent basic interpretation.
- 4 Minor artifacts recognized; negligible diagnostic interference.
- 5 Artifacts appropriately minimized or correctly used as clues.

G. TEMPORAL RESOLUTION (CINE/LIVE ONLY)

- 0 Motion cannot be evaluated reliably.
- 1 Severely discontinuous or distorted motion display.
- 2 Important motion events missed or poorly represented.
- 3 Motion clinically interpretable with limited smoothness/detail.
- 4 Motion displayed smoothly with good event discrimination.
- 5 Fast relevant events depicted accurately and consistently.

IMAGE CRITIQUE | INSTRUCTOR SUMMARY

Three-image score record | Corresponds to Images 1, 2 and 3 in the student PDF

Instructor

Course / date

Student

Assign a 0-5 score in each domain; leave temporal resolution blank for still images.

DOMAIN	IMAGE 1	IMAGE 2	IMAGE 3
A. Clinical content & field of view			
B. Spatial resolution			
C. Contrast resolution			
D. Penetration & image uniformity			
E. Operator-controlled optimization			
F. Artifacts & diagnostic impact			
G. Temporal resolution (cine/live only)			
FINAL SCORE (still: /30 cine/live: /35)			

INTERPRETATION

Use numeric totals to compare performance within a similar clinical task and imaging mode.

Scores are educational indicators, not validated measures of diagnostic performance.

Instructor comments / priority correction