Oral Prelim Rubric

On a Pass/Fail scale, rate the student’s performance in the oral prelim:

1. Research readiness: The student…
   a. …has engaged meaningfully in a substantive research project at UW-Madison......................................................... [  ]
   b. …has internalized and applies scientific ethics.................................................................................................................. [  ]
   c. …clearly understands scientific methodology and applies it to their research................................................................. [  ]

On a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent), where 3 denotes the pass-fail demarcation, rate the student’s performance in the oral prelim:

2. Research presentation: The student…
   a. …explained the scientific background of their research clearly............................................................................................ [  ]
   b. …presented the research at a level appropriate for a set of peers from a related discipline at a scientific conference .... [  ]
   c. …showed clear understanding of the literature cited in their presentation............................................................................ [  ]

3. Questioning on research presentation: The student…
   a. …was able to answer questions about their research correctly........................................................................................ [  ]
   b. …displayed clear grasp of the scientific aspects of the research presented................................................................. [  ]
   c. …displayed clear grasp of the technical aspects of the research presented ................................................................. [  ]
   d. …displayed clear grasp of the sources and implications of uncertainty and error in their research................................. [  ]

4. Questioning on topics broadly relating to student’s research: The student displayed solid understanding of science areas associated with their research by…
   a. …answering questions about material in areas of astronomy relevant to their research correctly ................................. [  ]
   b. …displaying the ability to reason through questions (physical reasoning)........................................................................... [  ]
   c. …displaying a clear awareness and grasp of the astronomical literature relevant to their research................................. [  ]