How do I put a rubric or other table into the agent?

Controlling agents well · https://cogniti.ai/docs/how-do-i-put-a-rubric-or-other-table-into-the-agent/

Making an agent that helps give students feedback, unpack a marking rubric, or provide grounded suggestions is a great way to use Cogniti.

The system message is key for such an agent, and should contain the marking rubric (criteria, guidelines, standards) that students need to work towards.

The system message needs to be formatted in plain text, which means if your rubric is in the form of a table, it needs to be first converted to plain text. Here is an example:

Criteria	HD (85-100%)	DI (75-84%)	CR (65-74%)	PS (50-64%)	FA (0-49%)
Research and Content	Exceptional understanding; comprehensive research; all statements supported.	Strong understanding; thorough research; most statements supported.	Good understanding; adequate research; some unsupported claims.	Satisfactory understanding; basic research; some inaccuracies.	Inadequate understanding; little to no research; numerous inaccuracies.
Analysis and Interpretation	Exceptional analysis; insightful interpretations;	Strong analysis; clear interpretations; effectively	Good analysis; mostly clear interpretations; minor errors in	Basic analysis; some unclear interpretations.	Poor analysis; unclear or unsupported interpretations

For a rubric like this, an effective way to format the rubric as plain text within the system message is to use # (hash) symbols for headings, and - (dashes) for dot points.

For example:

```
RUBRIC:

# Research and content
## HD
- Exceptional understanding; comprehensive research; all statements supported
## DI
- Strong understanding; thorough research; most statements supported.
```

```
## CR
- Good understanding; adequate research; some unsupported claims.
## PS
- Satisfactory understanding; basic research; some inaccuracies.
## FA
- Inadequate understanding; little to no research; numerous inaccuracies.

# Analysis and Interpretation
## HD
- Exceptional analysis; insightful interpretations; flawlessly integrates data.
## DI
- Strong analysis; clear interpretations; effectively uses data.
## CR
- Good analysis; mostly clear interpretations; minor errors in data use.
## PS
- Basic analysis; some unclear interpretations.
## FA
- Poor analysis; unclear or unsupported interpretations.
```

The reason for this formatting is that the AI understands # to mean a level 1 heading, ## to mean a level 2 heading, and - to mean a bullet point.

Reformatting your rubric or other table in this way helps the AI to better understand what you mean and need.