

Writing Assignment Rubric

		Distinguished			Proficient		Limited		Unsatisfactory	
CONTENT										
	Introduction	Attitude is defined; thesis is clearly focused; subject is significant			Thesis is clear; provides direction for essay		Unclear; formulaic; not creative		Introduction is incomplete, ineffective, or missing	
	Idea Development	Interesting; sophisticated; insightful			Clear and thoughtful		Simplistic; uneven in quality; lacking in relevance		Absent or ineffective	
	Support or Evidence	Detailed; accurate; convincing			Sufficient and accurate		Uneven		Vague, missing, or inaccurate	
	Word Choice	Engaging and powerful choice of words			Appropriate to task		Uneven		Limited, monotonous, or inappropriate	
	Conclusion	Extends; connects; comments on topics			Purposeful and perceptive		Summarizes previously stated information		Absent, incomplete, or unfocused	
	ORGANIZATION									
	Topic Sentences	Clearly related to thesis; comprehensive; incorporates effective transitions			Comprehensive and logical		Provides bland restatement of thesis; narrow or inaccurate		Absent	
	Paragraph Order	Contributes to an effective argument; reinforces the content			Demonstrates a clear plan		Ineffective or inconsistent		Random	
	Transitions	Effective and varied			Clear and functional		Mechanical		Absent	
	MECHANICS									
	Sentence Structure	Complete; varied; interesting			Complete and correct		Variety is present; some errors are evident		Repetitious; fragments and run-ons are frequent	
	Punctuation/Spelling	Error-free			Errors present but do not interfere with meaning		Careless or distracting		Block meaning	
	Voice	Distinctive; appropriate to task and audience			Clear and authentic		Mechanical; formulaic		Unclear	

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