

Category	Exceeds Standard	Meets Standard	Nearly Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard	No Evidence	Score
Thesis Statement	Clearly and concisely states the paper's purpose in a single sentence, which is engaging, and thought provoking.	Clearly states the paper's purpose in a single sentence.	States the paper's purpose in a single sentence.	Incomplete and/or unfocused.	Absent, no evidence	
Introduction	The introduction is engaging, states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper.	The introduction states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper.	The introduction states the main topic but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper.	There is no clear introduction or main topic and the structure of the paper is missing.	Absent, no evidence	
Body	Each paragraph has thoughtful supporting detail sentences that develop the main idea.	Most paragraphs have sufficient supporting detail sentences that develop the	Many paragraphs lack supporting detail sentences.	Many paragraphs fail to develop the main idea.	Not applicable	
Organization-Structural Development of the Idea	Writer demonstrates logical and subtle sequencing of ideas through well-developed paragraphs; transitions are used to enhance organization.	Paragraph development present but not perfected.	Logical organization; organization of ideas not fully developed.	No evidence of structure or organization.	Not applicable	
Conclusion	The conclusion is engaging and restates the thesis.	The conclusion restates the thesis.	The conclusion does not adequately restate the thesis.	Incomplete and/or unfocused.	Absent	
Mechanics	No errors in punctuation, capitalization and spelling.	Almost no errors in punctuation, capitalization and spelling.	Many errors in punctuation, capitalization and spelling.	Numerous and distracting errors in punctuation, capitalization and spelling.	Not applicable	
Usage	No errors in sentence structure and word usage.	Almost no errors in sentence structure and word usage.	Many errors in sentence structure and word usage.	Numerous and distracting errors in sentence structure and word usage.	Not applicable	
Citations and Bibliography	All cited works, both text and visual, are done in a correct format with no errors (Chicago Manual of Style preferred). Citation is done appropriately (i.e., information needing citation is cited)	Some cited works, both text and visual, are done in the correct format, and not all information needed citation is cited. Inconsistencies evident.	Few cited works, both text and visual, are done in the correct format, and not all appropriate citations are provided.	Absent	Not applicable	