

	4	3	2	1
Originality	The analysis or argument is original, insightful, and creative.	Most of the analysis or argument is original, insightful, and creative.	Some of the analysis or argument is original, insightful and creative.	None of the analysis or argument is original, though it may be insightful and creative.
Content	Thesis and arguments are clear, focused, and controlled. Ideas are thoughtfully and precisely developed. All terms are adequately defined. Key concepts are explained. Examples are used to illustrate key concepts and ideas. Analysis is not lacking in ingenuity or depth.	Thesis is clear. Most ideas are developed thoughtfully. Most terms are adequately defined. Key concepts are not fully explained. Most of the examples used illustrate key concepts and ideas. Analysis is adequate but may lack ingenuity and depth.	Thesis is clear. Some ideas are thoughtfully developed. Some terms are adequately defined. Key concepts are unclear. Some of the examples used illustrate key concepts and ideas. Analysis may be simplistic or self-evident.	Thesis is unclear. Ideas are undeveloped. Terms are not adequately defined. There is no attempt to explain key concepts. There is no attempt to use examples to illustrate key concepts or ideas. There is little or no analysis.
Organization	An inviting lead draws the reader in. The conclusion leaves the reader with a sense of resolution. Details fit where they are placed. Transitions are smooth and concise. All paragraphs are unified and cohesive. Arguments are logically built. Paper is easy to follow.	Effort to engage with a lead has been made. Effort to bring closure has been made. Details mostly fit where they are placed. Most transitions are smooth and concise. Most paragraphs are unified and cohesive. Arguments are logically built, with few exceptions. Paper is mostly easy to follow.	Intro presents the work, but may not engage the reader. The conclusion may reiterate the thesis, but no effort to bring closure has been made. Details somewhat fit where they are placed. Some transitions are unified and concise. Some paragraphs are unified and cohesive. Arguments have beginnings, middles, and ends. Paper is somewhat easy to follow.	There is no lead. There is no conclusion. Details do not fit where they are placed. Paragraphs are not unified and cohesive. Transitions are missing. Arguments do not follow the set-up of the thesis. Paper is not easy to follow.

Voice	Sophisticated and natural diction.	Correct and appropriate word	Words are generic. Language	Words are vague and flat. Incorrect or
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	Words are specific and appropriate. Expression is original and appealing. No grammar or spelling errors.	choice, although it could have more sophistication. Includes some original and appealing expression. A few grammar or spelling errors.	communicates but rarely captures the reader's imagination. Settles for common, clichéd language. May use some words inappropriately. Some grammar or spelling errors.	inappropriate word choice. Word choice may be repetitive. There is no attempt to use original and appealing language. Many grammar or spelling errors.
Scholarship	References are aptly chosen and effectively used. Successfully engages with a range of relevant primary and secondary sources. All claims are adequately cited. Provides readers with requisite background information.	Most references are well-chosen and effective. Successfully engages with key texts. References to secondary literature are minimal. Most claims are adequately cited. Provides readers with most of the requisite background information.	There are some references, but they may not push the argument forward enough. Student has mastered only a part of the relevant key texts and does not fully engage with the existing literature on her topic. Some claims are not adequately cited. Some background information is missing.	There are very few references. The student knows or understands little of the relevant literature and/or has made major errors in interpretation. Missing crucial background information and textual justification for claims.

SCORING

ORIGINALITY:

CONTENT:

ORGANIZATION:

VOICE:

SCHOLARSHIP:

OVERALL SCORE =

GENERAL COMMENTS: