

 <p>This rubric has been brought to you by Dallas Hulsey</p>	<b>Exemplary:</b> <b>Considerably Exceeds expectations</b>	<b>Advanced:</b> <b>Exceeds expectations</b>	<b>Average: Meets expectations</b>	<b>Below Average:</b> <b>Approaches expectations</b>	<b>Failing: Does not meet Expectations</b>
<b>Responds to the assignment:</b> Follows instructions and addresses the topic.	Completely follows instructions and stays on topic.	Follows instructions and stays on topic.	Follows instructions and rarely strays from topic.	Follows some instructions, but strays off topic.	Does not follow instructions and/or is off topic. <b>Review Assignment Instructions.</b>
<b>Title and Introduction:</b> The first paragraph introduces the topic, orients the reader, and engages the reader's attention.	Title is creative and engaging. Introduction creatively and fully introduces topic.	Title clearly reflects topic. Introduction is interesting and competently introduces topic.	Title generically indicates topic. Introduction is adequately developed and engages reader's attention.	Title is missing or unclear. Introduction isn't fully developed, is confusing, and/ or does not engage reader's attention.	Title is missing. Introduction is underdeveloped and/or confusing.
<b>Thesis Statement:</b> The main point(s) are developed in a thesis statement at the end of the introduction.	Thesis is placed appropriately while clearly and creatively identifying the main point(s) in one concise sentence.	Thesis is placed appropriately while clearly identifying the main point(s) in one sentence.	Thesis is placed appropriately while accurately identifying the main point(s).	Thesis is inappropriately placed is confusing, and/or is underdeveloped.	Thesis is missing or not readily evident.
<b>Idea Development:</b> Ideas are developed, using appropriate, arguments, evidence, examples, and details.	Paragraphs clearly and fully develop the main idea, making effective use of a wide variety of strategies to communicate the point.	Paragraphs clearly and consistently develop the main idea, using several strategies to communicate the point.	Paragraphs are adequately developed with clear examples and explanation, but would benefit from further development.	Paragraphs are underdeveloped, lacking clear and relevant examples.	Paragraph development is minimal, confusing, and/or off topic.
<b>Organization:</b> The essay is well-organized and unified.	Paragraphs begin with creative topic sentences that accurately predict content, connect to thesis, and serve as transitions between paragraphs.	Paragraphs begin with topic sentences that accurately predict content, connect to thesis, and serve as transitions between paragraphs.	Paragraphs begin with topic sentences that accurately predict content and connect to thesis.	Paragraphs include topic sentences that connect to thesis, but are misplaced or underdeveloped.	Topic sentences are missing, do not connect with thesis or are confusing.
<b>Conclusion:</b> The conclusion leaves the reader with a strong last impression.	Conclusion is creative, clear, and developed, ending on a strong note.	Conclusion is clear and developed, ending on a strong note.	Conclusion is a basic summary of the essay's main ideas.	Conclusion is confusing or underdeveloped.	Conclusion is nonexistent or off topic.
<b>Language:</b> The essay uses clear, appropriate, and direct words and phrases.	Language is always concise, clear, appropriate, and direct with no errors in word choice while fully defining key terms.	Language is consistently concise, clear, appropriate, and direct with few errors in word choice while fully defining key terms.	Language is generally concise, clear, appropriate, and direct with some errors in word choice while defining key terms.	Language is not always concise, clear, appropriate, or direct with some errors in word choice.	Language is confusing or wordy with frequent errors in word choice.
<b>Sources:</b> In-text citations and Works Cited Page follow MLA format as appropriate.  <b>NA</b>	All quotations and paraphrases are documented correctly with both in-text citations and Works Cited entries.	All quotations and paraphrases are documented correctly with both in-text citations and Works Cited entries, but contain a few minor errors in citations or Works Cited entries.	All quotations and paraphrases are documented correctly with both in-text citations and Works Cited entries, but contain several minor errors in citations or Works Cited entries.	Not all quotations and paraphrases are documented correctly with both in-text citations and Works Cited entries, but effort to cite sources is evident.	In-text citations and Works Cited are inaccurate, confusing, or not present.
<b>Grammar and Mechanics:</b> The essay uses conventional spelling, sentence structure, grammar, and punctuation.	Demonstrates control of grammatical and mechanical usage with no errors.	Demonstrates control of grammatical and mechanical usage with a few minor errors.	Demonstrates basic control of grammatical and mechanical usage but contains several minor and moderate errors.	Demonstrates emerging control, but contains frequent errors that interfere with comprehension.	Demonstrates minimal or no control of conventions.
<b>Overall:</b>	Considerably exceeds expectations	Exceeds expectations	Meets expectations	Approaches expectations	Does not meet expectations