

Student:

Rating Scale »	1 2 3 F Poor D+	4 5 6 7 8 C- Average B+	9 10 A - Outstanding A	Score
Comprehensive				
The general experience of the composition.	Hard to read and understand.	Doesn't fully state and support a clear claim, purpose or argument	A strong, clear, supported claim, purpose or argument that's easy to read and understand.	
Forming, Framing, Presenting Thoughts and Ideas	Score based upon how many of these MAJOR PROBLEMS are evident, and how seriously.	Score based upon how many of these MINOR PROBLEMS are evident, and how seriously.	Score based upon how WELL these STANDARDS are achieved. [Likely to be indicated by these features]	
Purpose: ("Provide your informed opinion") Answer the question fully; state and support a thesis (informed opinion).	Incomplete or highly unbalanced (or separate) responses to the question. Fails to address the question(s) fully. Lacking opinion. Claim very unclear or difficult to locate, and/or thesis fails to synthesize two part of question.	Touches upon but doesn't fully address the question. Stance/opinion not made fully clear or difficult to locate. Stance clear but not fully developed. Thesis doesn't clearly or fully predict the support.	Clear and well-developed stance. [Thesis statement in a predictable location, clearly stated, touching on all subtopics] [All parts of the answer easy to distinguish]	
Elaboration: ("explain how you reached that conclusion.") Explain the reasoning behind the conclusion (make clear connections): Body paragraphs support topic sentences with details from sources and personal experience.	Little or no supporting details from sources; Seemingly-random selection of details from sources. Lacking topic sentences that predict paragraphs; Lacking a sense of how details connect to opinion(s).	Seeks to explain connections but results not always fully clear. Lacking reasons or support in a few places; reader left wondering "how" or "why" in places. Not all paragraphs introduced by clear predictive topic sentences.	Reason/support connections clear and convincing. [Topic sentences easy to locate, clearly written] [Points and particulars both present in most or all paragraphs]	
Crafting, Proofing Written Prose				
Shape, Power, and Emphasis: Use position in sentences and paragraphs to help readers understand what's important. Signal relationships and transitions. Get to main verbs quickly. Place old before new information.	Sentences overly simple or needlessly complicated. Sentences poorly constructed/edited (long introductions, interrupted subject verb connections, etc.). Organizational logic not clear or signaled.	Sentences generally easy to understand, but not always high impact. Sentences occasionally hard to understand. Organization only partially signaled.	Sentences achieve their effects with little effort from the reader. [Parallelism, active voice, simple tense] [Coordination, subordination] [Transitions - easy to follow organization]	
Editing Errors	Frequent Editing Errors	Occasional Editing Errors	Few Editing Errors	
Economy and Clarity: Use fewer words in more-effective sentences. Cut repeated words and obvious implications; prefer the affirmative. Choose well-suited and precise words. Spelling	Too many wasted words and empty phrases; wordy or mechanical. Abstract, general words chosen for important passages. Inappropriate or wrong words chosen. Confusing arrangements of subjects/topics. Many errors	Some words and phrases could have worked harder; some waste. Mixture of abstract/concrete, specific/general word choices. Inconsistent order of subjects/topics. Some errors	Virtually every word and phrase counts Easy to follow and tangibly imagine. [Concrete, specific nouns; strong, active verbs; consistent order of subjects/topics] Few, if any, errors	
Sources and Cites				
Sources Citations	Few Sources Used; Indicative of poor or inadequate research Poor quality of sources Poor citation form	Adequate number of sources; average research Effective sources Good citation form; few errors	Above average number of sources Excellent use of sources; unusual sources; creative research Excellent citation form; virtually no errors	

Total Points: 0