

Journalismcriticalthinkingmasterrubric

Criteria	Not developed	Somewhat developed	Substantially developed
Problem identification/ thesis statement	Does not have a clear statement of the problem. Does not answer most of the 5Ws plus Why? using specific language	Answers some but not all of the 5Ws plus Why? Does not have a clear statement of the problem or does not use specific language	In 2-3 clear sentences, answers the 5Ws plus Why? using specific language
Initial position and assumptions	Personal assumptions and attitudes brought to the project leak out in language choice and content selection but are not directly addressed.	Personal assumptions and attitudes brought to the project are addressed but not stated in one clear paragraph.	In one clear paragraph, identifies and articulates personal assumptions and attitudes brought to the project.
Evidence/data	Does not clearly isolate and present what was learned through observation. Presents incorrect data or presents data in a manner too confusing for an average high school graduate to grasp it.	Research data presented, but in a manner hard for an average high school graduate to grasp it. Data presentation may be incomplete.	Clearly isolates and presents the research data, using a chart, a list, or other device in addition to prose to make clear what was learned through observation.
Analysis: Looking for patterns in the evidence/data	Does not clearly shape evidence to show patterns, similarities, differences etc.	Partially shapes evidence to show patterns, similarities, differences etc., but does not clearly complete task.	In at least one clear paragraph, clearly shapes evidence to show patterns, similarities, differences etc.
Interpretation: What is the meaning? So what?	Does not place findings within appropriate context. Does not answer "So What?"	Does not clearly place findings within appropriate context. Does not clearly answer "So What?"	In at least 2 or 3 clear sentences, places findings within appropriate context. Clearly answers "So What?"
Evaluation: An informed judgment built on all the earlier steps, including but surpassing personal viewpoint.	No clear conclusion. No informed judgment built on evidence. Does not address any change in initial position and assumptions.	Conclusion needs work for clarity, use of evidence to form judgment or to address any change in initial position.	Conclusion of 1 or 2 paragraphs presents informed judgment built on all the earlier steps, including but surpassing personal viewpoint. Clearly addresses any change in initial position and assumptions.