

	Outstanding	Competent	Average	Needs Work	Revision Suggested
Thesis Clarity (20%)	Thesis is clear, argumentative, and acts as an organizing tool for the paper.	The thesis has a clear argument and acts as organizing tool, but could use some rewording for clarity.	Argument is somewhat clear. Thesis could be strengthened by rewording or restructuring. Vague organization for paper is offered.	The thesis attempts an argument, but it is not clear and offers no organization for the paper.	Thesis contains no argument and offers no organization for the paper.
Analysis (40%)	The paper offers a clear and unique analysis that is thoughtfully articulated. Several useful connections are made with course content.	The paper offers a clear analysis of the text that shows comprehension of course content, terms and ideas. Connection made between thesis and course content.	Presents ideas from the course, but some need to be more fully developed. Analysis is attempted and paper attempts to make connections between the thesis and course content.	Presents ideas from course in a basic way. The paper has minimal connection to course content.	Lack of comprehension of course ideas and terms. No connections are made to course content. The paper offers no analysis.
Supporting Evidence (15%)	The paper offers several examples and quotations that support thesis argument. There are no irrelevant quotations and the evidence is balanced. Some outside sources may be present to enhance argument.	The paper offers several examples and various quotations that support and enhance argument outlined in thesis statement.	The paper offers evidence from text, but the evidence is not always clear or relevant and there are claims that may not be adequately supported.	The paper offers minimal evidence, but does support some claims.	The paper has very little evidence. The evidence that is present is confusing and distracts from the argument.

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Paper Organization (15%)	The paper is well organized with an informative introduction, good transitions, and a thoughtful conclusion. The paper's organization strengthens the thesis argument.	The paper is pretty well organized. The introduction, transitions, and conclusion clearly connect to the thesis argument.	The paper is somewhat clear and organized, but deviates at times from making connections to the thesis argument.	The paper has clear organizational flaws that distract from the thesis argument.	Has no clear or logical organizational structure.
Grammar and Mechanics (10%)	The sentence structure, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and word choice are intentional and help strengthen the overall paper and argument.	The sentence structure, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and word choice are correct.	An occasional instance of poor sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, and/or word choices and misspellings.	Need to improve the sentence structure, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and/or word choices. There is a pattern of errors in the paper.	Several grammatical and mechanical errors.