<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exemplary</th>
<th>Accomplished</th>
<th>Developing</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Focus</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prompt is completely &amp; clearly addressed</td>
<td>Prompt is clearly addressed</td>
<td>Prompt is addressed</td>
<td>Prompt is partially or unclearly addressed</td>
<td>Prompt is not addressed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well-developed/interesting opening leads to central idea(s)</td>
<td>Effective, though less-detailed opening leads to central idea(s)</td>
<td>Adequate opening leads to a central idea</td>
<td>Rudimentary opening to writing sample</td>
<td>No opening or intro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear/interesting central idea(s) is/are stated/implied &amp; gradually revealed</td>
<td>Clear central idea(s), is (are) stated explicitly</td>
<td>Central idea may not be immediately clear but is evident by the end of the essay</td>
<td>Ambiguous or unclear central idea</td>
<td>No central idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully addresses the needs of audience/situation/occasion</td>
<td>Mostly addresses the needs of audience/situation/occasion</td>
<td>Sufficiently addresses the needs of audience/situation/occasion</td>
<td>Little awareness of audience/situation/occasion</td>
<td>No awareness of audience/situation/occasion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Organization & Development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exemplary</th>
<th>Accomplished</th>
<th>Developing</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consistently logical &amp; effective ¶ing &amp; structure</td>
<td>Usually logical &amp; effective ¶ing &amp; structure</td>
<td>Occasionally inconsistent logic or unclear ¶ing &amp; structure</td>
<td>Rarely logical, mostly ineffective ¶ing</td>
<td>No logic &amp; no ¶ing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smooth, sophisticated transitions between &amp; within ¶s</td>
<td>Mostly smooth transitions between &amp; within ¶s</td>
<td>Occasional transitions between &amp; within ¶s</td>
<td>Awkward or missing transitions between &amp; within ¶s</td>
<td>No transitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body ¶s provide convincing &amp; detailed evidence/examples</td>
<td>Detailed evidence/examples in body ¶s with only occasional lapses</td>
<td>Body ¶s contain adequate but inconsistent levels of detailed evidence</td>
<td>Inadequate evidence/examples in body ¶s or confusing explanations</td>
<td>Body ¶s provide random or no evidence, discussion, or explanation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective, thorough discussion &amp; explanation of topic</td>
<td>Mostly convincing, competent discussion of topic</td>
<td>General, occasionally convincing discussion of topic</td>
<td>Rarely convincing discussion of topic</td>
<td>Ineffective, unconvincing discussion of topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interesting, effective, insightful conclusion</td>
<td>Concludes paper effectively</td>
<td>Concludes adequately</td>
<td>Weak/mechanical/incomplete conclusion</td>
<td>Missing, ineffective, dull, incoherent, or irrelevant ending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional creativity &amp; higher order critical thinking</td>
<td>Frequent creativity &amp; higher order critical thinking</td>
<td>Sufficient creativity &amp; higher order critical thinking</td>
<td>Infrequent creativity or higher order critical thinking</td>
<td>No creativity or higher order critical thinking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Style & Sentence Structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exemplary</th>
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<th>Developing</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate &amp; accurate use of disciplinary language</td>
<td>Frequent use of appropriate &amp; accurate disciplinary language</td>
<td>Sufficient use of appropriate &amp; accurate disciplinary language</td>
<td>Little use of appropriate &amp; accurate disciplinary language</td>
<td>No use of disciplinary language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophisticated/Effective/Appropriate diction</td>
<td>Usually sophisticated, mostly accurate diction</td>
<td>Unsophisticated but generally accurate diction</td>
<td>Often limited, frequently imprecise diction</td>
<td>Limited, imprecise diction prevents communication of complex ideas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophisticated/Varied sentence length &amp; structure</td>
<td>Frequently varied sentence length &amp; structure</td>
<td>Some variety in sentence length &amp; structure</td>
<td>Mostly simple, rarely varied sentence length &amp; structure</td>
<td>Unsophisticated or no variation in sentence length &amp; structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistent tone and appropriate voice</td>
<td>Usually consistent tone &amp; voice</td>
<td>Occasionally inconsistent tone &amp; voice</td>
<td>Frequently inconsistent tone inappropriate voice</td>
<td>Inconsistent, inappropriate tone &amp; voice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistently smooth, clear syntax</td>
<td>Frequently smooth, clear syntax</td>
<td>Occasionally tangled syntax</td>
<td>Distracting, unidiomatic expressions &amp; syntax</td>
<td>Incomprehensible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No wordiness</td>
<td>Little wordiness</td>
<td>Some wordiness</td>
<td>Wordy</td>
<td>Excessive wordiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Mechanics</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ▪ Free of grammatical errors  
▪ Free of usage & mechanical errors  
▪ Correct/accurate MLA document design | ▪ Appropriate disciplinary research materials  
▪ Consistently uses reliable, relevant, appropriate sources  
▪ Consistently & correctly cites sources in-text & parenthetically  
▪ Unfailingly uses MLA documentation style  
▪ Complete absence of plagiarism  
▪ Thoughtful, insightful, effective synthesis of writer’s ideas & sources | ▪ Frequent appropriate & accurate research materials  
▪ Frequently uses reliable, relevant, appropriate research materials  
▪ Infrequent errors citing sources in-text or parenthetically  
▪ Few lapses in MLA documentation style  
▪ Complete absence of plagiarism  
▪ Frequent insightful synthesis of writer’s ideas & sources |
| ▪ Few grammatical errors  
▪ Infrequent usage & mechanical errors  
▪ Correct/accurate MLA document design | ▪ Sufficient appropriate & accurate research materials  
▪ Uses sources, most of which are reliable & relevant  
▪ Occasional errors citing sources in-text or parenthetically  
▪ Occasional lapses in MLA documentation style  
▪ Complete absence of plagiarism  
▪ Some effective synthesis of writer’s ideas & sources | ▪ Insufficient disciplinary research materials  
▪ Uses frequently unreliable or irrelevant sources  
▪ Frequent errors citing sources in-text or parenthetically  
▪ Frequent lapses in MLA documentation style  
▪ Complete absence of plagiarism  
▪ Unsuccessfully attempts to synthesize writer’s ideas & sources |
| ▪ Some grammatical errors  
▪ Some usage or mechanical errors  
▪ Correct/accurate MLA document design | ▪ Distracting number of grammatical errors  
▪ Distracting number of usage or mechanical errors  
▪ Incorrect/Inaccurate MLA document design | ▪ Excessive errors in grammar or mechanical conventions  
▪ Distorted, obscured, or incomprehensible meaning  
▪ Incorrect/Inaccurate MLA document design |
| ▪ Distracting number of grammatical errors  
▪ Distracting number of usage or mechanical errors  
▪ Incorrect/Inaccurate MLA document design | ▪ Frequent suitable & accurate research materials  
▪ Frequently uses reliable, relevant, appropriate research materials  
▪ Infrequent errors citing sources in-text or parenthetically  
▪ Few lapses in MLA documentation style  
▪ Complete absence of plagiarism  
▪ Frequent insightful synthesis of writer’s ideas & sources | ▪ Insufficient disciplinary research materials  
▪ Uses frequently unreliable or irrelevant sources  
▪ Frequent errors citing sources in-text or parenthetically  
▪ Frequent lapses in MLA documentation style  
▪ Complete absence of plagiarism  
▪ Unsuccessfully attempts to synthesize writer’s ideas & sources |
| ▪ Excessive errors in grammar or mechanical conventions  
▪ Distorted, obscured, or incomprehensible meaning  
▪ Incorrect/Inaccurate MLA document design | ▪ Insufficient discipline research materials  
▪ Uses frequently unreliable or irrelevant sources  
▪ Frequent errors citing sources in-text or parenthetically  
▪ Frequent lapses in MLA documentation style  
▪ Complete absence of plagiarism  
▪ Unsuccessfully attempts to synthesize writer’s ideas & sources | ▪ Lacks sources or uses unreliable, irrelevant, inappropriate sources  
▪ Missing citations & has widespread errors citing sources in-text or parenthetically  
▪ Little or no use MLA documentation style  
▪ Evidence of plagiarism  
▪ No synthesis of writer’s ideas & sources |