

Grading Rubric

	5	4	3	2	1
Content	Complete understanding of the text. Demonstrates in-depth analysis of the text. Follows the task described.	Understands the text. Demonstrates analysis of the text. Follows the task described.	Understands the text but demonstrates little analysis. Follows the task described.	Has little understanding of the text. Does not follow the task described.	Demonstrates no understanding of the text and/or does not follow the task described.
Command	Evidence selected from the text is detailed and the best example. Applies directly to the topic.	Evidence selected from the text is appropriate and provides basic support. Applies directly to the topic.	Evidence selected from the text is basic and may not be partially applicable to the topic.	Attempts to use evidence from the text, but may not be applicable to the topic.	No evidence from the text is used.
Clarity	Organization is smooth and clear, with varied transitions used to support meaning. Formal style exhibits voice.	Organization is smooth, with transitions used to support meaning. Style is formal but does not necessarily exhibit voice.	Organization is attempted, but use of transitions is inconsistent or inappropriate to meaning. Style is not maintained throughout.	Little attempt at organization or organization may not demonstrate comprehension of task. No formal style exhibited.	No attempt at organization or style.
Construction	Sophisticated conventions are used with few to no errors.	Conventions are used with few to no errors.	Some errors in conventions exist that prevent comprehension.	Many errors in conventions exist that prevent comprehension.	Conventions are demonstrated minimally and/or prevent comprehension.

This rubric can be weighted if you are emphasizing a particular focus in your students' writing. Responses that are completely confused, incoherent, or blank should receive a 0.