

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Essay Rubric

Categories	Excellent!	Good	Almost There	Needs Some Work	Did Not Meet Requirements	Points Earned
Context and Position (20 Points) P	Clear position statement is supported through a well-organized essay; provides a reasoned (clear and consistent) argument with supporting data; deals with all significant issues; offers analysis and reaches plausible conclusions; no conceptual errors.	Thesis statement is supported by an argument that may need better organization; uses contextual information from some of the collected data to support most of the arguments; offers analysis and reaches plausible conclusions; few conceptual errors.	Presents a thesis or a position; organized argument; offers analysis but with limited support; errors do not detract from conceptual understanding.	Thesis or position is not clearly defined or is missing altogether; little or no analysis; limited, if any, support provided; errors detract from conceptual understanding.	Does not provide a context or take a position. Rambles and does not refer to the context of the essay.	
Documentation (20 Points) I	Provides relevant and specific examples and data; goes into depth; adds considerable, pertinent information.	Provides appropriate examples and data; goes into some depth.	Provides somewhat appropriate examples and data.	Provides limited examples and data; data is used ineffectively or inappropriately.	Most of the examples and data mentioned are inaccurate; student has failed to comprehend the issue.	
Thoroughness (20 Points) E	Even coverage of all areas of study in the essay; where appropriate analyzes and summarizes various points of view; provides complete understanding of the issues and complexity involved.	Covers most areas of study in the essay; summarizes some different points of view; gives some evidence of knowledge of the issues and complexity involved.	Adequately covers most areas of the topic; provides sketchy evidence of knowledge of the issues and complexity involved.	Inadequately covers the topic or may cover only portions of the topic; incomplete and inaccurate evidence of knowledge of the issues and complexity involved.	Does little more than mention or repeat portions of the topic; simply restates the question.	
Presentation/Flow (20 Points)	Well organized; effective writing enhances the response; uses clear, precise, and/or vivid language. Flows well.	Organized and fluent essay. Essay flows fairly smoothly/transitions well	Some organization; mechanical errors may hinder comprehension. Flow is sometimes rough.	Little organization; mechanical errors hinder comprehension. Flow is rough in many places	No apparent organization; mechanical errors seriously impede comprehension. Flow is choppy and difficult to read.	
Grammar & Mechanics (10 Points)	Sentences are varied in structure and are free from errors	Sentences are varied in structure and are relatively free of errors	May have occasional sentence-level errors, but does not have errors that indicate a failure to proofread or an inability to control the basic grammar of standard written English	Need to proofread prior to submitting-many sentence-level errors	Essay does not meet minimum requirements for this criterion	
MLA Format (10 Points)	Student follows MLA Format-12-point font, 1-inch margins, double spacing, correct citation of sources/in-text. No errors.	Student follows MLA Format and is relatively free of errors	Student follows MLA Format but the paper does contain a few errors	Student attempts to follow MLA Format but paper contains many errors.	Essay does not meet minimum requirements for this criterion	

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Additional Comments:						Total Points: ____/100
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