

	4	3	2	1
Thesis Statement	Chose a side and gave clear reasoning for it (a road map for the paper). Thesis statement is clearly arguable.	Chose a side, but the reasons were too vague, too specific, or awkwardly written. Thesis statement is somewhat arguable.	Chose a side, but gave no reasons. Thesis statement is not really arguable.	Either did not attempt OR wrote about something completely unrelated to prompt OR addressed the prompt topic, but did not choose a side of the argument. Thesis statement is not arguable.
First supporting Example	The example is clearly introduced with a transitional word or phrase. Intro connects example to the thesis statement.	The example is clearly introduced with a transitional word or phrase	The example is introduced without a transitional word or phrase	The example is not introduced.
	Paraphrased evidence for this example is accurate, relevant, specific, and detailed.	Paraphrased evidence for this example is accurate, relevant, and specific.	Paraphrased evidence for this example is slightly inaccurate and/or irrelevant and/or lacks specificity	Paraphrased evidence for this example does not make sense or is missing.
	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is clear and detailed.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is clear .	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is unclear.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is missing.
Second Supporting Example	The example is clearly introduced with a transitional word or phrase. Intro connects example to the thesis statement.	The example is clearly introduced with a transitional word or phrase	The example is introduced without a transitional word or phrase	The example is not introduced.
	Paraphrased evidence for this example is accurate, relevant, specific, and detailed.	Paraphrased evidence for this example is accurate, relevant, and specific.	Paraphrased evidence for this example is slightly inaccurate and/or irrelevant and/or lacks specificity	Paraphrased evidence for this example does not make sense or is missing.
	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is clear and detailed.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is clear.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is unclear.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is missing.

Third Supporting Example	The example is clearly introduced with a transitional word or phrase. Intro connects example to the thesis statement.	The example is clearly introduced with a transitional word or phrase	The example is introduced without a transitional word or phrase	The example is not introduced.
	Paraphrased evidence for this example is accurate, relevant, specific, and detailed.	Paraphrased evidence for this example is accurate, relevant, and specific.	Paraphrased evidence for this example is slightly inaccurate and/or irrelevant and/or lacks specificity	Paraphrased evidence for this example does not make sense or is missing.
	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is clear and detailed.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is clear.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is unclear.	The explanation for how the paraphrased evidence supports the topic sentence is missing.
Conclusion	Conclusion restates your examples and the topic sentence in a new and interesting way.	Conclusion restates your examples and the topic sentence.	Conclusion restates either your examples or the topic sentence, not both.	There is no conclusion.
Mechanics and Usage	There are almost no errors.	There are a few errors.	There are some errors.	There are many errors.

Grading

4 – Exceeds expectations

3 – Meets expectations

<2 – Does not meet expectations