

	Lacks clear sense of direction Ideas strung together in loose or random fashion		reader through logic of analysis Smooth, professional transitions from each part of the paper to the next Paragraphs and ideas fit together for internal coherence
Conclusion	Writing just “ends” without any conclusion Conclusion is confusing or not logical Confusion merely repeats introduction	Provides logical conclusion with summary, but fails to synthesize main points or assert significance of the paper’s content	Provides a clear, convincing conclusion section that synthesizes and extends the main points of the rest of the paper Goes beyond summarizing what was already said and brings a sense of completion to the discussion Asserts the significance of the paper or the argument presented

SUBSTANTIVE IDEAS AND CONTENT

Development of

Argument/Analysis
Evidence is offered, but lacks interpretation/integration
Consists of quotes strung together without adequate interpretation and thinking on the part of the student

			Writing demonstrates reflective thought on this topic has occurred Level of analysis/thinking results in nuanced discussion with practical relevance
Comprehensive Discussion	Numerous examples of not following instructions/assignment Lack of attention to detail throughout	Followed assignment, but lacks either comprehensiveness or attention to detail	Comprehensive, thoughtful, thorough discussion with the content responsive to the assignment

MECHANICS	Grammar and Spelling	Numerous and significant errors in grammar/spelling which interfere with comprehension and distract from the message	Writing contains some errors in grammar/spelling Appears spell-checked, but missed a typo or two	Employs appropriate grammar and spelling without error
	Vocabulary and Word Choice	Fails to use appropriate vocabulary or terminology, or uses them incorrectly Word choice inappropriate for intended audience Inappropriate use of “casual language” and clichés	Adequate vocabulary, but lacks some sophistication or precision	Utilizes sophisticated vocabulary with precise word choice that enhances overall meaning Integrates terminology from the discipline
	Sentence Structure	Poorly developed sentences Sentences don't express 2refHces		

