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| Scoring Elements | **Not Yet--1** | | **Approaches Expectations--2** | | **Meets Expectations--3** | | **Advanced--4** |
| **Focus** | Attempts to address prompt, but lacks focus or is off-task. | 1.5 | Addresses prompt appropriately and establishes a position, but  focus is uneven. *D. Addresses additional demands superficially.* | 2.5 | Addresses prompt appropriately and maintains a clear, steady focus. Provides a generally convincing position. *D: Addresses additional* *demands sufficiently* | 3.5 | Addresses all aspects of prompt appropriately with a consistently strong focus and convincing position. *D: Addresses additional demands with thoroughness and makes a connection to claim.* |
| **Controlling**  **Idea** | Attempts to establish a claim,  but lacks a clear purpose.  *D1. Makes minimal/no mention of competing views.* |  | Establishes a claim.  *D1. Makes a weak or unclear acknowledgement/refutation of competing views.* |  | Establishes a credible claim.  *D1. Clearly acknowledges/ refutes competing views.* |  | Establishes and maintains a substantive and credible claim or proposal.  *D1. Acknowledges/refutes competing views fairly and thoroughly.* |
| **Reading/**  **Research** | Attempts to reference reading materials to develop response,  but lacks connections or relevance to the purpose of the prompt.*D4. Makes minimal/no mention of the origin credibility and origin of sources in view of the research topic.D8. Makes minimal/no attempt at bibliography, citations, references, endnotes.* |  | Presents information from reading materials relevant to the purpose of the prompt with minor lapses in accuracy or completeness.*D4. Makes a weak or unclear attempt to address the credibility and origin of sources in view of the research topic.D8.Attempts to Include (e.g.)bibliography, citations, references, endnotes.* |  | Accurately presents details from  reading materials relevant to the purpose of the prompt to develop argument or claim.  *D4. Addresses the credibility and origin of sources in view of research topic.*  *D8. Includes (e.g.) bibliography, citations, references, endnotes.* |  | Accurately and effectively presents  important details from reading materials to develop argument or claim.  *D4. Thoroughly addresses the credibility and origin of sources in view of research topic.*  *D8. Includes (e.g.) bibliography, citations, references, endnotes.* |
| **Development** | Attempts to provide details in response to the prompt, but lacks sufficient development or relevance to the purpose of the prompt.*D2. Gives minimal/no examples from past or current events/issues to clarify the writer’s position.* |  | Presents appropriate details to support and develop the focus, controlling idea, or claim, with minor lapses in the reasoning, examples, or explanations.*D2. Attempts to give examples from past or current events/issues. Examples may be weak or unclear.* |  | Presents appropriate and sufficient  details to support and develop the  focus, controlling idea, or claim.  *D2. Gives sufficient examples from past or current events/issues to illustrate and clarify the writer’s position.* |  | Presents thorough and detailed  information to effectively support and develop the focus, controlling idea, or claim.*D2. Makes clarifying connections that illuminates argument and adds depth to reasoning to illustrate position with examples from past/current events.* |
| **Organization** | Attempts to organize ideas, but  lacks control of structure.  *D7. Makes minimal/no attempt to use \_\_techniques to clearly convey multiple storylines.* |  | Uses an appropriate organizational structure for development of reasoning and logic, with minor lapses in  structure and/or coherence.  *D7. Attempts to use \_\_techniques to clearly convey multiple storylines.* |  | Maintains an appropriate  organizational structure to address  specific requirements of the prompt.  Structure reveals the reasoning and  logic of the argument.*D7. Uses \_\_techniques to clearly convey multiple storylines.* |  | Maintains an organizational structure that intentionally and effectively enhances the  presentation of information as required by the specific prompt. Structure enhances development of the reasoning and logic of the argument.*D7. Skillfully uses \_\_techniques to convey multiple storylines.* |
| **Conventions** | Attempts to demonstrate  standard English conventions,  but lacks cohesion and control  of grammar, usage, and  mechanics. Sources are used  without citation.  *D6. Makes minimal/no attempt to use stylistic devices to enhance the writing.* |  | Demonstrates an uneven  command of standard English  conventions and cohesion.  Uses language and tone with  some inaccurate, inappropriate,  or uneven features. Inconsistently cites sources.*D6. Attempts to use stylistic devices to develop the writing.* |  | Demonstrates a command of standard English conventions and cohesion, with few errors. Response includes language and tone appropriate to the  audience, purpose, and specific  requirements of the prompt. Cites sources using appropriate format with only minor errors.*D6. Uses stylistic devices to develop the writing.* |  | Demonstrates and maintains a well developed command of standard English  conventions and cohesion, with few errors. Response includes language and tone consistently appropriate to the audience, purpose, and specific requirements of the prompt. Consistently cites sources using  appropriate format.*D6. Skillfully uses stylistic devices to enhance the writing.* |
| **Content Understanding** | Attempts to include disciplinary content in argument, but understanding of content is weak; content is irrelevant,  inappropriate, or inaccurate.  *D3. Makes minimal/no attempt to draw conclusions/implications, but conclusions may be weak or inaccurate.D5. Makes minimal/no attempt to identify any gaps or unanswered questions.* |  | Briefly notes disciplinary content  relevant to the prompt; shows  basic or uneven understanding  of content; minor errors in explanation.  *D3. Attempts to draw conclusions/ implications, but may be unclear.*  D5. Attempts to identify gaps or unanswered questions—Some areas may still be unclear. |  | Accurately presents disciplinary  content relevant to the prompt with sufficient explanations that  demonstrate understanding.  *D3. Draws conclusions/implications.*  *D5. Identifies any gaps or unanswered questions.* |  | Integrates relevant and accurate  disciplinary content with thorough  explanations that demonstrate in-depth understanding.*D3. Enhances argument by drawing conclusions/implications.*  *D5. Identifies any gaps or unanswered questions to enhance content understanding.* |