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|  | **A (100-90)** | **B (89-80)** | **C (79-70)** | **D- F (69-40)** |
| **Thesis/ Introduction****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 points** | Paper clearly states the thesis statement and engages the reader in the topic. | Paper clearly states a thesis and reader is able to make assumptions about the topic | Thesis is stated in paper but is difficult to understand. Reader is not sure of topic. | No clear thesis statement and the topic is not clear to the reader. |
| **Organization****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 points** | Paper is arranged logically to support the thesis. Flow is smooth and connects nicely. | Paper is arranged logically to support the thesis. Flow is smooth occasionally. | Paper is somewhat arranged logically to support the thesis. Flow is could be improved. | Paper is not logically organized and fails to connect ideas appropriately. |
| **Content/Argument****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 points** | Content is very relevant and strongly adds purpose to the paper. Argument is clear to reader. | Content is relevant and adds some purpose to the thesis statement and paper. Argument is present, but needs work. | Content is somewhat relevant and adds little to the thesis statement and paper. Argument is attempted, but incomplete | Content is not relevant and does not add anything to the thesis statement and paper. No attempt at an argument is made. |
| **Research****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 points** | Research provides strong and compelling evidence for thesis. Importance/ relevance of research is clear. | Research provides some evidence for thesis. Importance/ relevance of research somewhat clear.  | Research somewhat provides evidence for thesis. Importance/ relevance is not clear. More research needed. | Research provides little to no evidence for thesis. Research is not relevant. Incorrect information present.  |
| **Conclusion****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 points** | Conclusion strongly restates thesis and supporting details. Conclusion is very strong  | Conclusion restates thesis and some supporting details. Conclusion to essay is strong | Conclusion somewhat restates thesis and few supporting details. Conclusion is average. | Conclusion does not restate thesis or supporting details. Conclusion is below average. |
| **Bibliography****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 points** | Bibliography is well organized and contains at least 5 scholarly sources. | Bibliography is organized and contains less than 4 scholarly sources. | Bibliography is somewhat organized and contains 2 or less scholarly sources. | Bibliography is disorganized and contains no scholarly sources. |
| **Grammar/ Spelling/Format****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 points** | Paper is free of errors. MLA format is correct with no errors. | Paper contains occasional errors without distracting reader. MLA format is mostly correct with occasional error. | Paper contains errors that are somewhat distracting to reader. MLA format errors throughout. | Paper contains many errors and completely distracting to the reader. No attempt at MLA format |