

Research Writing Rubric

	<i>Expert</i>	<i>Practitioner</i>	<i>Apprentice</i>	<i>Novice</i>
<i>Purpose & Focus</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Has an engaging hook. ○ Uses a concise, effective thesis statement. ○ Subject and position is clear throughout the paper. ○ Has an effective closing that ties together the big ideas of the paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hook is somewhat interesting. ○ Has a solid thesis statement that clearly explains subject of paper. ○ Remains on topic throughout. ○ Conclusion does not just restate intro, but attempts to connect to the big idea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is an opening, but it does not hook the reader's attention. ○ -Thesis is present, but has some issues in clarity. ○ Does not consistently remain on topic. ○ Conclusion is a restatement of introduction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lacks an opening. ○ Attempt at a thesis, but is seriously flawed. ○ Is consistently off topic. ○ No attempt at proper closing.
<i>Supporting Details, Analysis, & Elaboration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Essay clearly and insightfully compares the most significant items. ○ Essay includes not only the relevant information, but also elaborates with evidence/quotes. ○ Excellent balance between student commentary and research. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Essay compares items clearly, but analysis is general. ○ Essay includes only information relevant to comparison or may lack some key elements. ○ Good balance between comments and evidence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Essay compares items clearly, but analysis is flawed. ○ Paper may include information that is not relevant to comparison. ○ Some imbalance between comments and sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Essay attempts to compare, but is severely flawed in analysis. ○ There is little to no supporting information. ○ Analysis of sources is incorrect or incomplete.
<i>Organization & Structure</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Effective use of the suggested format. ○ Paragraphs follow a logical order, which enhance the overall piece. ○ Flawlessly uses transitions to flow from one idea to the next. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Satisfactory overall use of suggested format. ○ Paragraphs are in a logical order. ○ Most of the writing flows easily from one idea to the next using transitions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attempted to use the format. ○ Paragraphs aren't logical or in expected order which is distracting. ○ Some use of transitions to flow writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No organization of writing. ○ Many details are not in logical order. ○ No use of transitions, which results in no flow from one idea to the next.
<i>G.U.M.S. (Grammar, Usage, Mechanics, & Spelling)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strong grasp of standard writing conventions, which contributes to the effectiveness of the essay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reasonable control over convention skills throughout the piece. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some control over convention skills throughout the piece, but errors impair readability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Significant number of conventional errors, which repeatedly distract the reader and make the text difficult to read.