

BLM 3 *Sample Scoring Guide for Academic Writing*

Name _____

Introduction/Conclusion – Thesis is appropriate and well-phrased. The introductory paragraph is focused and sufficiently detailed, and includes information about the subject(s) that will be discussed throughout the essay. The main idea introduced here is built upon in the body paragraphs that follow. Likewise, the essay concludes with an appropriate restatement of the topic and summation of the argument.

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Quotations/Supporting Details – Quotations are appropriate and correctly formatted; they flow naturally into the student’s writing. Support, either implicit or explicit, is provided for all assertions. References are correctly attributed. References or citations are complete and correctly formatted.

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Voice and Control – There is a sense of voice developed throughout the paper, appropriate to the topic and format of the essay. The paper flows logically from one topic to another, linked by appropriate transitions. Voice and tone are appropriate for the audience and the subject. The paper addresses its subject with clarity and sophistication; upper-level responses may employ appropriate rhetorical and/or stylistic techniques to enhance ideas and clarify the argument (metaphor, allusion, etc.).

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Argumentation – The paper develops a strong argument and develops logically, employing appropriate logical argumentation techniques. The paper considers and addresses contrary perspectives. The paper employs appropriate support from relevant sources.

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Mechanics and formatting – The paper shows evidence of editing. Rules of grammar, punctuation, and spelling are followed accurately. Essay formatting guidelines are followed.

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