

Rubric for Scoring A Commentary or Position Paper

	Advanced		Thorough		Acceptable		Partial		Minimal			
Profile	Extensive understanding of the writing of the genre.		Solid understanding of the writing of the genre.		Adequate understanding of writing of the genre.		Limited understanding of the writing of the genre.		Inadequate understanding of the writing of the genre.			
Organization & Ideas	Writing is perceptive and engaging. Flows smoothly. Insightful and critical content.		Writing is focused and well-structured. Clear content with well-developed content.		Writing is suitable but formulaic. Some relevant and/or general content.		Writing and content are vague and unfocused.		Writing and content are incomplete and/or inappropriate.			
Purpose, Audience, & Voice	Voice and views are compelling. Purpose and audience are skillfully addressed.		Voice and views are convincing. Purpose and audience are clearly addressed.		Voice and views are identifiable. The purpose and audience are evident.		Voice is uncertain. Purpose and audience are suggested. Writing task is partially addressed.		Voice, purpose, audience, and writing task are not addressed.			
Elements & Techniques	Techniques and elements are used in a deliberate and sophisticated manner.		Techniques and elements are used thoughtfully and thoroughly.		Basic use of elements and techniques.		Ineffective use of elements and techniques.		Little or no awareness of elements and techniques.			
Result	5+	5	5-	4+	4	4-	3+	3	3-	2+	2	1
	100	95	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50	35

** The criterion below is only considered when the meaning of the paper is obscured by poor use of language. If a student obtains a partial or minimal mark in language conventions, the overall score of the paper may not be higher than 60%.*

Language Conventions* (Grammar, syntax, paragraphs, spelling, punctuation, and usage)	Superior control and effective, error-free use of language conventions.	Consistent control and minor, infrequent errors.	Adequate control and some errors that do not interfere with meaning.	Tenuous control and frequent errors that interfere with meaning.	Extensive language problems and errors.