Criteria	Does Not Meet (4 and below)	Approaches (5-6)	Meets (7-8)	Exceeds (9-10)
Organization and Unity	Does not include an introduction or conclusion that relates to the rest of the essay Is missing major and essential organizational elements, therefore lacking purpose Does not display paragraph differentiation or development, or paragraphs may be unacceptably brief Lacks transitions between paragraphs and ideas	Possesses an introduction Attempts to arrange paragraphs in a logical progression, but lacks even or clear development and use of appropriate words or phrases to signal organization pattern Restates and summarizes main ideas in conclusion, but may be repetitive or redundant Uses transitions between paragraphs and ideas inconsistently	Possesses a meaningful introduction Contains paragraphs arranged into a logical progression using appropriate words or phrases to signal organizational pattern Includes an effective conclusion that takes a step beyond summary Uses transitions regularly between paragraphs and ideas.	Possesses an engaging and perceptive introduction. Presents paragraphs in a clear, logical, and sophisticated progression using effective words and phrases to signal organizational pattern Incorporates an effective conclusion that transcends summary Uses transitions effectively between paragraphs and ideas.
Flow (Sentence Variety)	Uses simple, unvaried sentences for the most part	Attempts to use varied sentences, with inconsistent success and fluency	Uses clear, varied sentences for desired effect	Uses clear, varied sentences with sophistication for desired effect
Word Choice	Uses word choice that is poor, often informal, inappropriate, or imprecise Has a tone that is largely inappropriate	Uses word choice that sometimes lapses into the informal or inappropriate Shows inconsistent or sometimes inappropriate tone	Contains specific word choice to the audience and purpose, descriptive language, and selected information Has an appropriate tone	Contains highly specific word choice to the audience and purpose, effective descriptive language, and carefully selected information Has an effective, purposeful tone

Usage	Exhibits little or no control of sentence formation, avoiding: --fragments --run-ons	Exhibits inconsistent control of sentence formation, avoiding: --fragments --run-ons	Exhibits consistent control of sentence formation, avoiding: --fragments --run-ons	Exhibits precise control of sentence formation, avoiding: --fragments --run-ons
	Exhibits little or no control of usage, including --subject/verb agreement --pronoun agreement --pronoun case --adjectives and adverbs --verb tenses --plurals and possessives --homophones --avoidance of double negatives -active vs. passive voice	Exhibits inconsistent control of usage, including --subject/verb agreement --pronoun agreement --pronoun case --adjectives and adverbs --verb tenses --plurals and possessives --homophones --avoidance of double negatives -active vs. passive voice	Exhibits consistent control of usage, including --subject/verb agreement --pronoun agreement --pronoun case --adjectives and adverbs --verb tenses --plurals and possessives --homophones --avoidance of double negatives -active vs. passive voice	Exhibits precise control of usage, including --subject/verb agreement --pronoun agreement --pronoun case --adjectives and adverbs --verb tenses --plurals and possessives --homophones --avoidance of double negatives -active vs. passive voice
Mechanics	Exhibits little or no control of mechanics, including --punctuation --capitalization --formatting --spelling	Exhibits inconsistent control of mechanics, including --punctuation --capitalization --formatting --spelling	Exhibits consistent control of mechanics, including --punctuation --capitalization --formatting --spelling	Exhibits precise control of mechanics, including --punctuation --capitalization --formatting --spelling

Total: **/50 =**