Evaluating a College Writing Sample RUBRIC

CRITERIA / SCALE	-3- Exceeds Expectations	-2- Meets Expectations	-1- Needs Improvement	-0- Inadequate
Structure Organization Flow of thought Transitions Format	 Paper is logically organized Easily followed Effective, smooth, and logical transitions Professional format 	 Paper has a clear organizational structure with some digressions, ambiguities or irrelevances Easily followed Basic transitions Structured format 	 There is some level of organization though digressions, ambiguities, irrelevances are too many Difficult to follow Ineffective transitions Rambling format 	 There is no apparent organization to the paper. Difficult to follow No or poor transitions No format
Grammar/mechanicssentence structurepunctuation/mechanics	 Manipulates complex sentences for effect/impact No punctuation or mechanical errors 	 Uses complex sentences Few punctuation or mechanical errors 	 Uses compound sentences Too many punctuation and/or mechanical errors 	Uses simple sentences
 Vocabulary; use of vocabulary Tone 	 Vocabulary is sophisticated and correct as are sentences which vary in structure and length Uses and manipulates subject specific vocabulary for effect Writer's tone is clear, consistent and appropriate for intended audience 	 Vocabulary is varied, specific and appropriate Frequently uses subject specific vocabulary correctly Writer's tone emerges and is generally appropriate to audience 	 Vocabulary is used properly though sentences may be simple Infrequently uses subject specific vocabulary correctly Writer's tone exhibits some level of audience sensitivity 	 Vocabulary is unsophisticated, not used properly in very simple sentences. Uses subject specific vocabulary too sparingly
 Content/information Clarity of purpose Critical and original thought Use of examples 	 Central idea is well developed and clarity of purpose is exhibited throughout the paper Abundance of evidence of critical, careful thought and analysis and/or insight Evidence and examples are vivid and specific, while focus remains tight 	 Central idea and clarity of purpose are generally evident throughout the essay Evidence of critical, careful thought and analysis and/or insight There are good, relevant supporting examples and evidence 	 The central idea is expressed though it may be vague or too broad; Some sense of purpose is maintained throughout the essay Some evidence of critical, careful thought and analysis and/or insight There are some examples and evidence, though general 	 Central idea and clarity of purpose are absent or incompletely expressed and maintained Little or no evidence of critical, careful thought or analysis and/or insight There are too few, no examples and evidence or they are mostly irrelevant