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| Category | Exceeds Standard4 | Met Standard3 | Nearly Met Standard2 | Does Not Meet Standard 1 |
| MLA Format | Your Name, Teacher’s Name,Course, Date, Title, Name/pg #:All neatly finished in MLA-no errors | One error | More than one error | Multiple errors or not in MLA format |
| Thesis Statement | Clearly and concisely states the paper’s purpose in a single sentence, which is engaging, and thought provoking. Correct placement: last sentence of the 1st paragraph.  | Clearly states the paper’s purpose in a single sentence. Correct placement.  | States the paper’s purpose in a single sentence. May not have correct placement.  | Incomplete and/or unfocused. May not have correct placement. |
| Introduction | The introduction is engaging,states the main topic andpreviews the structure of the paper. Has a strong hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience. This could be a strong statement, a relevant quotation, statistic, or questions addressed to the reader. | The introduction states themain topic and previews thestructure of the paper. The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber, but it is basic. | The introduction states themain topic but does notadequately preview thestructure of the paper. The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber, but it is weak, rambling, or inappropriate for the audience. | There is no clear introductionor main topic and the structureof the paper is missing. There is no hook. |
| Organization/Body/Development | Each paragraph has thoughtful supporting detail sentences that develop the main idea. Writer demonstrates logical and subtle sequencing of ideas through well-developed paragraphs; transitions are used to enhance organization. | Each paragraph has sufficientsupporting detail sentencesthat develop the main idea. Paragraph development present but not perfected. | Each paragraph lackssupporting detail sentences. Logical organization;organization of ideas not fullydeveloped. | Each paragraph fails todevelop the main idea. No evidence of structure ororganization. |
| Conclusion | The conclusion is *engaging* and restates the thesis. Well developed. | The conclusion restates theThesis. Well developed.  | The conclusion may notadequately restate the thesis. May be underdeveloped.  | Incomplete and/or unfocused. |
| Style and Voice | The writer shows a mature command of language including precise word choice that results in a compelling piece of writing. May include advanced literary techniques such as similes, metaphors, etc. | The writer shows a command of language including precise word choice. | The writer’s commandof language, includingword choice, supports meaning. | Vocabulary may be basic. |
| Mechanics and Usage | No errors in punctuation, capitalization, spelling. sentence structure, or word usage. Conventions contribute to the effect of the response. | Almost no errors in punctuation,capitalization, spelling. Sentence structure, or word usage. Lapses in writing conventions are hardly noticeable. | Multiple errors in punctuation,capitalization, spelling. sentence structure, or word usage. | Numerous and distractingerrors in punctuation, capitalization, spelling. sentence structure orword usage. May make the reading difficult to understand.  |
| **Citation (x7)****This is a HUGE focus of this paper! Spend time ensuring it is correct!**  | All cited works, both text and visual, are done in the correct MLA format with no errors. | Cited works, both textand visual, are done in thecorrect MLA format. Minor inconsistencies or mistakes evident. | Attempted to cite all areas that needed citation, but was not in the correct format.  | Attempted to cite, but missed items that needed to be cited or did not cite at all. (I reserve the right to fail you on this paper if this error is made: at the very least you will receive a zero on this portion of the rubric depending on severity.) |
| Works Cited | Done in the correct MLA format with no errors. Includes at least 2 **credible** references. | Done in the correct MLA formatwith few errors. Includes at least 2 **credible** references.  | Done in the correct format with some errors. Includes 2 references, but may not be credible.  | Incorrect format, may not have 2 credible sources.  |

**RUBRIC SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/60 Pre-Write/Outline Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/70**