

Thesis and Focus (15%): The writer should establish and maintain a strong, meaningful purpose, starting from one of the literary works and leading into further, deeper reflection about the work. There should be a strong focus on this thesis throughout, in a style appropriate to the purpose.

15 13 11 10 8

Claims and Development (30%): The writer should balance research, reflection, and the reading to develop his/her thesis and achieve the essay's purpose. The writer should give the subject(s) considered thought, with careful attention to the relevance, significance, and complexity of the ideas. The writer should relate claims to each other and to the rest of the essay.

30 25.5 22.5 19.5 16.5

Support (30%): The writer should support claims with research material and the literature itself, illustrating ideas and explaining logic. Support should be clearly related to the claims made. The writer should explain his/her sources; incorporate summary, paraphrase, and quotation of sources; and cite all source information.

30 25.5 22.5 19.5 16.5

Organization (15%): Claims, support, and paragraphs should move in a logical way, taking the reader through the writer's thought process. The writer should anticipate the reader's needs, and structure the essay accordingly.

15 13 11 10 8

Prose/Mechanics (10%): Style should be appropriate for the assignment. Sentences should be well-written, with correct word choices and few grammatical errors. Quoted passages should be cited correctly in MLA format.

10 8.5 7.5 6.5 5.5

Grade: _____