

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**DIRECTIONS:** For each characteristic row in the table below, circle the mark in the column which accurately describes it. The total of all rows is the mark for the essay.

	<i>Exceptional</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Competent</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Incoherent</i>
<i>Characteristic</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>Spelling</i>  <i>/10</i>	Virtually no errors  9	Few, if any errors  8	Several errors in spelling  7	Frequent errors in spelling  6	Many spelling errors, but commonly used words spelled right  5	Many spelling errors including misspelled commonly used words  <5
<i>Grammar &amp; Sentence Structure</i>  <i>/20</i>	Sophisticated grammar and sentence structure with few, if any, errors  18	Sentence structure is varied with minor grammar errors  16	Adequate variation in sentence structure and grammar  14	Occasional errors in sentence structure and grammar which don't obscure meaning  12	Frequent errors in sentence structure and grammar which obscure meaning at times  10	Frequent, serious errors in sentence structure and grammar obscure meaning  <10
<i>Organization of Essay</i>  <i>/20</i>	Superior use of organization and transitions  18	Logically organized, ideas flow, good use of transitions  16	Adequate organization supported by adequate transitions  14	Has a beginning, middle and end, with poor transitions  12	Has a beginning, middle and end, but no transitions  10	No discernible beginning, middle or end  <10
<i>Focus on Topic</i>  <i>/20</i>	Superior focus on topic in purposeful and insightful manner  18	Focused on topic  16	Focused on topic, but occasionally has ideas which are not on topic  14	Loses focus with ideas which are loosely connected or off topic  12	Frequently includes ideas which are not on topic  10	Mostly off topic  <10
<i>Understanding of Topic</i>  <i>/15</i>	Superior understanding of topic  13.5	Very good understanding of topic  12	Adequate understanding of topic  10.5	Limited understanding of topic  9	At least partial misunderstanding of topic  7.5	Does not understand topic at all  <7.5
<i>Support for Thesis</i>  <i>/15</i>	Sophisticated and elaborate examples in support  13.5	Specific examples and details in support  12	Adequately specific support  10.5	A mixture of specific and generalized support  9	What support there is consists of generalization  7.5	No supporting examples used  <7.5