

Name: _____

Score: _____ Teacher Name: _____

Expectations	Exceeds Standard 4	Meets Standard 3	Nearly Meets Standard 2	Below Standard 1
T Topic Sentence	Skillfully establishes a topic sentence/argument (who, what, when, where, why) for the paragraph.	Clearly establishes a topic sentence/argument (who, what, when, where, why) for the paragraph. <i>W.9-12.1-3</i>	Attempts to establish a topic sentence/argument (who, what, when, where, why) for the paragraph, but may not address the prompt or may be invalid or unclear.	Does not attempt to establish a topic sentence/argument (who, what, when, where, why) for the paragraph.
E Evidence (Evidence includes concrete examples, details, quotations, statistics, graphs, tables, personal experience, etc.)	Effectively supports valid argument(s) with well-chosen, detailed evidence accurately citing sources of information when appropriate.	Supports valid argument(s) with detailed evidence, accurately citing sources of information when appropriate. <i>W.9-12.1-3</i>	Attempts to support argument(s), but evidence may be insufficient, inaccurate, unclear and/or is not cited accurately.	Does not attempt to support argument(s) with valid or clear evidence.
X Explanation	Insightfully analyzes evidence in relation to the topic sentence by thoroughly explaining its importance.	Analyzes evidence in relation to the topic sentence by explaining its importance to the topic sentence and/or the overall prompt. <i>W.9-12.1-3</i>	Attempts to analyze evidence but explanations do not relate to the prompt, OR lack clarity and/or logic.	Does not attempt to analyze the evidence by explaining its importance to the topic sentence and/or the overall prompt.
T Transition/Closure	Skillfully completes the paragraph with an insightful transition sentence that links major sections of the text, creates cohesion, clarifies the relationships among complex ideas and concepts, or brings closure.	Completes the paragraph with a transition sentence that links major sections of the text, creates cohesion, clarifies the relationships among complex ideas and concepts or brings closure. <i>W.9-12.1-3</i>	Attempts to complete the paragraph with a transition sentence, but the sentence that links major sections of the text does not create cohesion, clarifies the relationships among complex ideas and concepts or brings closure.	Does not attempt to complete the paragraph with a transition sentence that links major sections of the text, creates cohesion, clarifies the relationships among complex ideas and concepts or brings closure.

*Rubric used to assess short answers and body paragraphs only (NOT A SCHOOL-WIDE RUBRIC FOR PORTFOLIO)