

Conventions:

Comments:

Structure	<p>Controlling Idea/Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose is clearly conveyed. This often appears as a thesis statement but may take other forms. Content of essay communicates the overall goal of the writer. 	
	<p>Organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major points and subsequent claims are arranged logically. Primary and secondary tenets of main topic are well selected. Related and/or similar thoughts are grouped but are not redundant. 	
	<p>Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enough support or background information is provided to orient the reader. Content persuades the audience to the intended point of view (considers differing points of view and avoids oversimplifications). Points are clear and supporting information is relevant to the controlling idea. 	
	<p>Transitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relationship between points on the sentence, paragraph, and idea level is established. Shifts in thought or focus are deliberately and effectively addressed. 	
	<p>Paragraph Boundaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraphs should have a clear direction and focus only on one specific point. Size matters! 	
	<p>Fluidity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essay flows from sentence to sentence as well as from point to point. The pacing (or rate of development) of the essay is well controlled. A lack of fluidity may be an indicator of a problem in one or several of the above conventions. 	
Language	<p>Grammar and Punctuation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Word choice, verb tenses, and forms follow standard usage. Sentence boundaries are observed, especially including correct usage of periods and commas. Inconsistencies in grammar and usage may occasionally occur but should be evidence of needed proofreading and not a larger issue. 	
	<p>Audience Awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language addresses a general academic audience—i.e. voice, tone, and style. 	