

	Passing (if all cells below are circled, paper is approved for use in portfolio)		Must Be Redone (redo any areas circled below, then re-submit)	
	4 Advanced	3 Proficient	2 Basic	1 Below Basic
Content and Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of higher level thinking; synthesis, analysis and/or evaluation Evidence of thorough research Details support topic sentences with facts, examples, anecdotes, quotes and explanations Interesting and effective essay structure Inviting introduction and satisfying conclusion. Thoughtful and clearly connecting transitions Effectively restates thesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of higher level thinking; w/some analysis and evaluation Evidence of research but seems incomplete Details support topic sentences but may demonstrate inconsistent development Attempts interesting essay structure Clear introduction and conclusion Transitions attempted Thesis evident, but perhaps not completely focused 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate, simplistic approach to the topic Evidence of attempt at research; basic information only Inaccurate content Inadequate support for topic sentences or thesis Ineffective introduction and conclusion Ineffective essay structure Ineffective transitions Ineffective thesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficult to follow thought processes No evidence of research Grossly inaccurate content Weak or non-existent support for topic sentences Limited or non-existent introduction and conclusion Lack of understanding of basic essay structure No transitions No thesis
Word Choice /Voice (personality behind the words)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly interesting word choices: Striking words, phrases Exact, energetic verbs Specific modifiers Sensory details Writing skillfully adapted to the audience Writes with distinct, unique voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiar words and phrases predominate Attempts at interesting word choices Few inconsistencies in point of view: I/you, me/they Few verb tense shifts Apparent voice; may be very general Engages the audience, technical language may be sometimes confusing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate word choices for subject, audience and purpose: i.e. slang, derogatory language Shifts in point of view among 1st, 2nd, and 3rd person Mixed or shifting tenses Overuse of "I" or "you" Voice is bland or flat Vague sense of audience: uses all technical language with no explanation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited vocabulary; simplistic word choice Illogical shifts in point of view Lack of voice No sense of audience
Sentence Fluency and Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied sentence structures (length and beginnings) No usage, grammar or spelling errors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempts varied sentence structures (length and beginning) Few usage, grammar, or spelling errors present; not distracting to the reader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conventional, confusing, or redundant sentence patterns Numerous and distracting usage, grammar and spelling errors; fragments and run-ons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awkward, incomplete, rambling and/or choppy sentences Abundant and glaring usage, grammar, spelling errors which inhibit readability
MLA Format	All elements correct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8.5 x 11" white paper Margins, 1" Times New Roman, 12 pt. Correct heading Double spaced Title centered, not off set Pages numbered, Arabic numerals, header on upper right, ½ " from top Underlined thesis statement Paragraphs indented 	All elements present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There may be some slight formatting errors 	Element missing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous formatting errors incorrect spacing, margins incorrect, justification incorrect, improper heading, titling, or headers https://style.mla.org/formatting-papers/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not typed Several elements missing Limited attempt to use MLA formatting in paper https://style.mla.org/formatting-papers/
Documentation	All elements present and correct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works Cited page correctly formatted 4 or more acceptable sources In text citations or author references throughout paper 	All elements present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of one element missing, such as spacing or margins 1 – 2 small errors 	Works Cited page included, but incorrectly formatted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too few in text citations or incorrectly formatted Unacceptable sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Works Cited page No in text citations or author references Abundant, glaring errors Fewer than 4 acceptable sources
Length: 5 – 7 pages	Length Requirement Met		Length Requirement NOT met	

Senior English Teacher Approval: _____