

## GRADING RUBRIC FOR A SCIENCE RESEARCH PAPER

| <i><b>CATEGORY</b></i>                              | <i><b>4</b></i>   | <i><b>3</b></i>  | <i><b>2</b></i>   | <i><b>1</b></i>  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Introduction/ Thesis</b><br>_____                | *exceptional introduction that grabs interest of reader and states topic.<br>**thesis is exceptionally clear, arguable, well-developed, and a definitive statement.   | *proficient introduction that is interesting and states topic.<br>**thesis is clear and arguable statement of position.  | *basic introduction that states topic but lacks interest.<br>**thesis is somewhat clear and arguable.   | *weak or no introduction of topic.<br>**paper's purpose is unclear/thesis is weak or missing.  |
| <b>Quality of Information/ Evidence</b><br>_____    | *paper is exceptionally researched, extremely detailed, and historically accurate.<br>**information clearly relates to the thesis.  | *information relates to the main topic.<br>**paper is well-researched in detail and from a variety of sources.   | *information relates to the main topic, few details and/or examples are given.<br>**shows a limited variety of sources.   | *information has little or nothing to do with the thesis.<br>**information has weak or no connection to the thesis.  |
| <b>Support of Thesis/Analysis</b><br>_____          | *exceptionally critical, relevant and consistent connections made between evidence and thesis.<br>**excellent analysis.   | *consistent connections made between evidence and thesis<br>**good analysis.   | *some connections made between evidence and thesis.<br>**some analysis.   | *limited or no connections made between evidence and thesis.<br>**lack of analysis.  |
| <b>Organization/ Development of Thesis</b><br>_____ | *exceptionally clear, logical, mature, and thorough development of thesis with excellent transitions between and within paragraphs.   | *clear and logical order that supports thesis with good transitions between and within paragraphs.   | *somewhat clear and logical development with basic transitions between and within paragraphs.   | *lacks development of ideas with weak or no transitions between and within paragraphs.   |
| <b>Conclusion</b><br>_____                          | *excellent summary of topic with concluding ideas that impact reader.<br>**introduces no new information.   | *good summary of topic with clear concluding ideas.<br>**introduces no new information.  | *basic summary of topic with some final concluding ideas.<br>**introduces no new information.   | *lack of summary of topic.   |
| <b>Style/Voice</b><br>_____                         | *style and voice are not only appropriate to the given audience and purpose, but also show originality and creativity.<br>**word choice is specific, purposeful, dynamic and varied.<br>***sentences are clear, active (subject-verb-object), and to the point. | *style and voice appropriate to the given audience and purpose.<br>**word choice is specific and purposeful, and somewhat varied throughout.<br>***sentences are mostly clear, active (SVO), and to the point. | *style and voice somewhat appropriate to given audience and purpose.<br>**word choice is often unspecific, generic, redundant, and clichéd.<br>***sentences are somewhat unclear; excessive use of passive voice. | *style and voice inappropriate or do not address given audience, purpose, etc.<br>**word choice is excessively redundant, clichéd, and unspecific.<br>***sentences are very unclear. |
| <b>Grammar/Usage/ Mechanics</b><br>_____            | *control of grammar, usage, and mechanics.<br>**almost entirely free of spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors.  | *may contain few spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors.  | *contains several spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors which detract from the paper's readability.   | *so many spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors that the paper cannot be understood.  |

|                                       |   |   |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| <b><i>Citation Format</i></b><br>——   | <i>*conforms to MLA rules for formatting and citation of sources are perfect.</i> | <i>*conforms to MLA rules for formatting and citation of sources with minor exceptions.</i> | <i>*frequent errors in MLA format.</i> | <i>*lack of MLA format/numerous errors.</i> |
| <b>Works Cited/Bibliography</b><br>—— | *entries entirely correct as to MLA format.                                       | *entries mostly correct as to MLA format.   | *frequent errors in MLA format.        | *lack of MLA format/numerous errors.        |

**Additional Comments:**