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

**Essay Rubric**

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| **Category** | **Excellent**  **20-25 points** | **Acceptable**  **10-19 points** | **Needs Improvement**  **0-9 points** | **Points Awarded** |
| **Content** | Student has addressed all aspects of the prompt by using information from the sources AND background knowledge; there are several vocabulary terms included in the essay. | Student has addressed all or most aspects of the prompt by using information from the sources or background knowledge. There are a couple of vocabulary terms included in the essay. | Student has addressed few or no aspects of the prompt, has used little or no information included in the sources, and has not included background knowledge. There are no vocabulary terms included in the essay. |  |
| **Hook/**  **Thesis** | Student has included a clever hook that excites the reader; has addressed all aspects of the prompt with a clear and concise thesis | Student has included a hook that is basic or student has addressed all of the prompt with an unclear thesis or most of the prompt with a clear and concise thesis | Student has failed to include a hook statement; Thesis is unclear and does not address the entire prompt and structure of the essay does not align with the thesis sentence. |  |
| **Structure** | Structure of the essay fully aligns with the thesis; includes an intro and conclusion; contains at least five paragraphs | Structure of the essay mostly aligns with thesis; includes an intro/ conclusion; contains at least four paragraphs | Structure of the essay does not align with thesis; lacks an intro or conclusion or has less than four paragraphs |  |
| **Citations** | Students have cited at least three separate sources; Citations are relevant; Citations are specific (title, author, page or paragraph number) | Students have cited one-two separate sources; Most citations are relevant; Citations are general (lack title, author, or page/paragraph number) | Students have cited one or no sources; Citations are irrelevant; Information is not cited properly (does not mention title, author, page/paragraph number) |  |
| **Total** | *80-100* | *40-79* | *0-39* |  |