	1. Not Evident	2. Occasionally Evident	3. Evident	4. Clearly Evident
Demonstrates recognition of problem or question	No discernible thesis or does not identify and state the nature of the problem or the related issue(s). Represents the issues inaccurately or inappropriately.	The thesis states and identifies the main question, but does not explain why or how it is a problem or question. Represents the issues accurately and appropriately.	The thesis identifies the main question and subsidiary aspects of the problem or question. Articulates some understanding of the scope of the problem and the related issue(s) involved.	Thesis articulates a clear understanding of the scope of the problem and issue(s) involved. Identifies embedded or implicit issues, addressing their relationships to the thesis.
Uses reasoning skills to develop and analyze arguments and evidence.	Does not develop an argument based on available information or evidence. Does not identify the key assumptions and/or evaluate the given information that underlies the issue.	Applies relevant thinking skills (e.g. comparing, contrasting, classifying, abstracting, analyzing, criticizing) in presenting information but without clear reference to context, assumptions, data, and evidence.	Applies relevant thinking skills (e.g. comparing, contrasting, classifying, abstracting, analyzing, criticizing) in presenting information with reference to context, assumptions, data, and evidence Suggests implications and consequences but without development.	Applies relevant thinking skills in presenting information. Develops solutions by using all available and applicable information. Identifies and clearly discusses implications and consequences, considering relevant assumptions, contexts, data, and evidence.
Shows awareness of multiple points of view and integrates knowledge gained from different sources	Does not acknowledge other possible perspectives or that other options were considered in developing the argument. Does not acknowledge and integrate information derived from other sources.	Acknowledges other possible perspectives although they are not clearly stated, developed, or evaluated. Acknowledges information derived from other sources but does not evaluate or integrate that information into the argument.	States clearly other salient perspectives and positions that are important to the analysis of the issue. Acknowledges, and examines information derived from other sources and integrates that information into the argument.	Clearly states and develops responses to other salient perspectives and positions that are important to the analysis of the issue. Acknowledges, examines and evaluates information from other sources and integrates that information and other points of view into the argument.
Draws conclusions based on evaluation of reasons, arguments, and evidence	Conclusions are not provided. Fails to reflect, identify or develop implications, consequences, and conclusions.	Conclusions are provided, but without discussion of implications or consequences. Little or no reflective thought is provided with regard to the assertions or to the key relationships between the other elements such as context, assumptions, or data and evidence.	Conclusions are stated and discussed Implications and consequences of the conclusion are reflected in context, relative to assumptions, and supporting evidence.	Stated conclusions are based on a thorough examination of evidence, a clear explanation of reasonable alternatives, and/or an evaluation of possible consequences. Reflection and evaluation develop and challenge solutions by using relevant information.