Category	Excellent	Proficient	Needs	Unsatisfactory
			improvement	
Understanding of	Demonstrates	Good	Adequate	Major gaps in
content (20 pts)	deep knowledge,	understanding,	understanding,	understanding,
	covers topic	minor gaps in	some significant	inaccurate
	thoroughly (18-20]	explanations. (15-	errors or omissions.	information (0-10]
		18]	(10-15]	
Research and	Uses a wide range	Adequate sources,	Few sources, weak	Insufficient or
sources (15 pts)	of reputable	research supports	integration of	inappropriate
	sources, cites	the text. (10-13]	research and other	sources, lack of
	correctly,		Wikipedia pages, or	proper citation,
	integrates research		major citation	plagiarism
	and other		errors. (7-10]	concerns. (0-7]
	Wikipedia pages			
	seamlessly. (13-15]			
Clarity, coherence,	Writing is clear and	Mostly clear, some	Clarity issues,	Writing is difficult
and English	accessible, explains	minor grammar or	explanations are	to follow,
proficiency (15	ideas concisely,	vocabulary errors,	often unclear or	explanations are
pts)	minimal or no	but	convoluted,	overly complex or
	grammatical	understandable.	noticeable	confusing, frequent
	mistakes,	(10-13]	grammar and	grammar mistakes,
	appropriate		vocabulary issues.	poor vocabulary
	vocabulary. (13-15]		(7-10]	choice. (0-7]
Organization (10	Essay is well-	Mostly organized,	Poor organization,	Little to no
pts)	organized with	some sections	unclear sections,	organization, no
	clear sections,	could be clearer	difficult to follow.	clear sections,
	logical flow, and	(7-9]	(5-7]	lacks logical flow
	appropriate length.			or inappropriate
	(9-10]			length. (0-5]
Total (60 pts)				