

Criteria	Level 4 20 points	Level 3 15 points	Level 2 10 points	Level 1 5 points
<b>Focus</b>	Provides clear, authoritative arguments defending the position.	Takes a well-understood position but supporting arguments are lacking or nonexistent.	Mentions a position that is neither elucidated nor supported.	Submits an information paper without taking a position on the topic.
<b>Organization</b>	Sub-topics flow well, moving from one point to another, each point building on the previous.	Obvious effort is made to organize the information.	Minimal effort is made to organize the information.	No effort is made to organize the information.
<b>Quality</b>	Spelling & grammar are correct. Includes well-crafted thesis statement & summary.	Effort is made to present college-level grammar & spelling. Includes well-crafted thesis statement or summary.	Minimal effort is made to address spelling mistakes.	No effort is made to address spelling mistakes & punctuation errors.
<b>Citation</b>	Provides full citation for external sources. All fact-based points are supported.	Provides verifiable sources for many fact-based arguments.	Minimal effort is made to provide sources.	No sources provided for paper.
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>Level 4 75 or more</b>	<b>Level 3 60 or more</b>	<b>Level 2 25 or more</b>	<b>Level 1 0 or more</b>
	This level demonstrates clear and definite out-of-class effort on the student's part. It is expected that the student benefited greatly from this assignment and will form long-lasting fact-based opinions about the world around them.	This level shows that the student made significant effort in many areas, with insufficient effort in a few areas. The student will benefit from this experience, though there may be a few gaps in their understanding, or they may cling to some incorrect assumptions.	This level demonstrates that the student made marginal (minimal) effort to complete the assignment, and therefore was benefited minimally by their effort.	This level shows a clear lack of effort on the student's part. The student will expect to gain from this experience what they put into it, and will therefore not gain much (if at all) from this assignment.