

Criterion	Exceeds standards	Above standards	Needs Improvement	Inadequate
Overall (10%)	The author directly addresses main question or issue, and adds new insight to the subject. The author has retained nearly all the knowledge presented in class. (9-10).	The author competently addresses main question or issue. the author has learned a great deal in class. (7-8).	Author attempts to address main question or issue, but fails. The author has retained some knowledge from the course, but without thorough or accurate understanding. (5-6).	The essay does NOT address any main question or issue, and it is obvious that author has not retained any knowledge from the course. (0-4).
Argument (20%)	The Argument is clear and specific. (18-20)	An argument is present, but reader must reconstruct it from the text. (14-17)	Author attempts, but fails, to make an argument. (10-13).	No attempt is made to articulate an argument. (0-9).
Analysis (30%)	The author's argument is based on detailed analyses of evidence. The importance/relevance of all pieces of evidence is clearly stated. (27-30).	The author provides necessary evidence to convince reader of most aspects of the main argument. The importance/ relevance of some evidence presented may not be totally clear. Reader must make a few mental leaps or do some additional research to fully accept all aspects of main argument. (21-26).	The author provides evidence without detailed analyses. It is unclear how the evidence supports the argument. (15-20).	The essay is a vague discussion without reference to details from the film (0-14).
Organization (30%)	The essay is organized in an argument-driven way, with all reasons clearly presented. (27-30).	The essay is mostly organized in an argument-driven way. (21-26).	The essay is written in a data-driven manner. The reader needs to look for the reasoning. (15-20).	The essay has no organizational pattern. (0-14).
Language (10%)	All sentences are grammatically correct and clearly written. The essay contains no needless word. No words are misused. All information is accurate. The essay has been carefully proofread and contains no errors. (9-10).	All sentences are grammatically correct and clearly written. Only a few words are misused. All information is accurate. The essay contains no more than a few minor errors, which do not adversely affect the reader's ability to understand the essay. (7-8).	A few sentences are grammatically incorrect or not clearly written. Several words are misused. Not all information is. The essay has been proofread, but still contains several errors. Reader's ability to understand essay may be compromised by these errors. (5-6).	The essay is full of grammatical errors and bad writing. Several words are misused. Not all information is accurate. The essay has not been proofread, and contains numerous errors. Reader has a difficult time understanding essay because of errors. (0-4).