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|  NAME: HR: **RESEARCH ESSAY DSPA** |
|  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| Ideas & Content | * Lacks core idea
* Development is minimal or nonexistent, supporting details are absent
* Idea is trite

Lacks ingenuity | * Purpose or main idea is unclear
* Details are present but largely irrelevant
* Idea may be unoriginal or common
 | * Main idea may be cloudy
* Details are general or off-topic
* Idea may be basic but addressed in a new or interesting way
 | * Idea is evident
* Support may be generalized
* Some details may be adequate
 | * Clear, focused, and/or interesting ideas
* Detail is appropriate
* Idea shows thought and demonstrates knowledge of the subject
 | * Exceptionally clear or focused idea
* Support and detail are engaging and relevant
 |
| Organization | * Lacks coherence
* Lack of organization makes the piece very confusing
* No discernable introduction or conclusion
 | * Lack of structure
* Disorganization makes the piece hard to follow
* Either introduction or conclusion is missing
* Weak intro and conclusion
 | * Organization may be attempted
* Organization might be a “list” of events (an attempt at transitions)
* Beginning and ending may be undeveloped
 | * Organization is appropriate but conventional
* There is an attempt at an introduction and conclusion
* Transitions may be present but used awkwardly or poorly chosen
 | * Strong order and structure
* Inviting introduction and satisfying closure
* Transitions connect ideas smoothly and serve to propel the piece forward
 | * Effectively organized in a both logical and creative manner
* Creative and engaging introduction and conclusion
* Transitions are seamless and draw the reader through the piece smoothly
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| Voice | * Writing is lifeless
* There is no hint of who the writer is behind the writing
 | * Writing is flat or stiff
* Little identifiable hints as to who the writer is
 | * Voice may be inappropriate to the task
* Writing comes across as mechanical
 | * There is a commitment to the topic but it lacks drive
* Inconsistent or dull personality
 | * There is commitment to the topic
* The voice is appropriate to both the audience and purpose
* The writer behind the words comes through clearly
* Personality is identifiable in the writing
 | * The writing is expressive, engaging, and sincere
* There is a strong sense of audience (the writer knows who the audience is and has made the writing fit accordingly)
* Shows emotion, humor, honesty, suspense, or life
* The writing is clearly the product of this particular writer – a fingerprint of who they are
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| Word Choice | * Limited range of words (can be repetitive)
* Vocabulary is misused
* Word choice is completely inappropriate to the task
 | * Monotonous choice of words
* Repetitive use of words
* Occasionally inappropriate use of language
 | * Words may be correct but boring
* No attempt at deliberate choice in words
* Some words are unnecessary
 | * Language is both functional and appropriate to the task
* Some descriptions may be overdone
* There are some missed opportunities to enhance the writing
 | * Words are descriptive and demonstrate a wide range in vocabulary
* Word choice energizes writing
* Words are chosen to reflect the task and fit well
 | * Precision and care are evident in word choice
* Writing evokes strong, fresh, and vivid images
* Words create distinct imagery
* Choices reflect the writer’s goal on many levels (fits the task, evokes emotions in readers, serves to propel the writing forward, etc.)
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| Sentence Fluency | * Writing is difficult to follow
* When read aloud, the writing is particularly cumbersome

Writing is disjointed, confusing, or rambling | * Writing comes across choppy
* Sentences tend to follow the same pattern, making the work sound monotonous

Run-on sentences occur frequently | * Some sentences are constructed awkwardly

Many sentences show similar patterns and beginnings | * Student demonstrates general control

Sentences lack variety in length and structure but are relatively easy to read | * There is an easy flow and rhythm to the writing

Sentences demonstrate a good variety in both length and structure | * A high degree of craftsmanship is evident in the sentences
* Sentences are varied effectively and indicate conscious choice on the writer’s behalf
* Sentence structure supports the writer’s goal on multiple levels
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| Conventions | * Numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to read
 | * Frequent significant errors may impede readability
 | * Limited control of conventions
* Though errors are frequent, the work is still understandable
 | * Student demonstrates control of most writing conventions
* Errors are occasional, but may be “high risk”
 | * Demonstrates strong control of conventions
* Errors are few and minor
 | * Exceptionally strong control of conventions
* Conventions are used to further the writing and are a deliberate choice of the writer to enhance the work as a whole
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| Presentation | * If handwritten, the work is illegible
* If typed, font, size, and spacing are unreadable. MLA formatting is completely absent
* If visuals are used, they do not go with the writing or are unidentifiable or inappropriate
 | * If handwritten, the work is very difficult to read
* If typed, font, size, and spacing make the paper difficult to read. MLA formatting is largely disregarded
* If visuals are used, they do not support the
 | * If handwritten, the work is a challenge to read
* If typed, formatting choices make the work a challenge to read. MLA formatting shows many errors
* If used, some visuals are not applicable to the work
 | * Handwriting is primarily legible with some questionable words or scribbled out errors
* Font, size, and spacing of typed work are adequate. MLA formatting is generally present with few minor errors
* Visuals, if used, help the reader understand the writing
 | * Handwriting is legible and does not present significant challenges to the reader
* Font, size, and spacing make the paper easy to read. MLA formatting is clearly understood and errors are few
* Visuals strengthen the work as a whole
 | * Handwriting is completely readable and neat
* Font, size, and spacing are all appropriate to the writing task. MLA formatting is without error
* Visuals reflect deliberate and creative choice and strengthen the writing
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| **SCORE:**  |