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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 |
| 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 |
| 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.) |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| **SCORE:** | | | | | | |