

Positive characteristics that may be present	Negative characteristics that may be present	Grade scale	Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Answers the question clearly and comprehensively and in a focused way. ○ Sound structure and organization. ○ Demonstrates insight, imagination, originality, and creativity. ○ Exhibits critical thinking, historical separation, independence of judgement. ○ Comes to logical conclusion based on evidence presented. ○ Incorporates a wide and diverse variety of evidence, with varied application within the paper. ○ Demonstrates ability to apply lectures and course readings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Might apply greater source variety. ○ Could exhibit greater critical thinking. ○ Could be somewhat more concise. 	93 & above	A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Answers question clearly and fully. ○ Fully addresses part of the question. ○ Has a good structure and organization. ○ Shows evidence of a very good understanding of the topic. ○ Shows clear evidence of relevant reading. ○ Clearly explains relevant theory and cites relevant evidence. ○ Contains reasoned argument. ○ Uses relevant examples. ○ Is well written and flows together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Could demonstrate more in the way of insight, imagination, originality or creativity. ○ Does not answer the question in as fully and comprehensive manner as would be possible. ○ Could demonstrate more ability to integrate information. Could exhibit more critical thinking. ○ Could exhibit more independence of thought. ○ Could be more concise. ○ Exceeds or falls below prescribed length. 	87-89	B+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attempts to answer the question. ○ Shows evidence of a basic to good understanding of the topic. ○ Shows evidence of some relevant reading or research. ○ Includes some relevant ideas or arguments. ○ Includes some relevant examples or evidence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A rudimentary answer to the question. ○ Part of a question has not been addressed. ○ Insufficient evidence of ability to apply material to answer the question. ○ Poorly structured argument. 	C+	77-79
		C	73-76

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assertions not backed by evidence. ○ Lacking in detail. ○ Inadequate or familiar style. ○ Contains grammatical errors. ○ Exceeds or falls short of prescribed word limit. 	C-	70-72
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Represents an attempt to answer the question. ○ Shows modest competency in topic. ○ Shows modest evidence of relevant reading or research. ○ Includes some relevant ideas. ○ Includes some relevant examples. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The answer to the question offered is not complete. ○ Parts of the question left unaddressed. ○ Displays only a barely adequate knowledge of the material. ○ Contains only just sufficient relevant information. ○ Does not contain a sufficiently well-structured argument. ○ Important omissions. ○ Unconcise. ○ Does not include sufficient relevant examples. ○ Sloppy writing style. ○ Evidence of lack of understanding of the material. ○ Exceeds/is short of word limit. 	D+	67-69
		D	63-66
		D-	60-62
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fails to exhibit basic components addressed above. 	F	0-59