

Name: _____ Period: ____ Due Date: _____

Term Paper Analysis

Review: Read through your most recent draft of the paper. Put a check here when you have done so: _____

What score did Utah Compose give your most recent draft of the term paper? _____

Do you think that is a fair and correct score? Why or why not? _____

Topic: Which text(s) does your paper address? _____

Primary Claim/Thesis: Write the sentence that states the main point you are making about the text(s):

Does this sentence appear somewhere in the opening paragraph of your essay? (Circle one.) YES NO

Reasons/Claims: Why do you think this thesis is true? Make general statements about the text(s) that support your primary claim/thesis. State them as complete sentences. *Your textual evidence should support these.*

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

Do these sentences appear in separate paragraphs of your term paper? (Circle one.) YES NO

Is each one supported by textual evidence (quotes/summaries) from the text? (Circle one.) YES NO

Reasoning/Warrants: Throughout the paper...

...do you explain how each piece of textual evidence supports your reasons? (Circle one.) YES NO

...do you have two pieces of textual evidence with reasoning in every body paragraph? (Circle one.) YES NO

Counterclaims: Why might someone disagree and/or see the same topic from a different angle?

Does your essay... ...acknowledge these counterclaims? (Circle one.) YES NO

...provide a rebuttal? (Circle one.) YES NO

Conclusion:

Do you have a short conclusion paragraph that restates and drives your argument home? (Circle one.) YES NO

Traits of Writing

CONTENT: If you followed all the instructions, filled in every blank, and answered YES to all the questions on the other side of this page, your ARGUMENT should receive full credit.

ORGANIZATION: This is the road map which directs the reader through the paper. It begins with a strong lead or hook (attention getter) and catches the reader's interest right from the beginning. The details along the way should add to that lead and should help build toward the conclusion, pulling the reader along right to the very end. It should use good transitions to move smoothly from one idea to the next, helping things fit together easily for the reader. Organization gives writing a sense of purpose and structure.

Can you explain the way your paper is organized? (Circle one.) YES NO

If yes, please do so: _____

WORD CHOICE: Good word choice involves being able to look critically at verbs and select ones that are active, powerful and energetic. It means being able to choose just the right words to make the writing sound natural and precise. Word choice is what gives exactness to details and helps the writer paint memorable pictures in the reader's mind. This does NOT mean using a thesaurus to replace little words with big ones.

Did you consider word choice when you were writing your essay? (Circle one.) YES NO

SENTENCE FLUENCY: In any piece of writing, there are many possible ways to write any sentence correctly, but usually, of those correct versions, one or two will sound better than others. A writer who can pick out those versions and can use them frequently will have a strong sense of sentence fluency. This does not mean creating longer sentences, but means using long sentences when they would be best and short sentences when they would suit better. It means creating a sense of rhythm with the sentences and a flow that the reader finds enjoyable to follow along. Good sentence fluency stands out when a piece of writing is read aloud.

Could you read your essay aloud without pauses to figure out your meaning? (Circle one.) YES NO

CONVENTIONS: Conventions are the rules of a language. They are the common patterns of grammar, spelling, punctuation, paragraphing and capitalization that readers come to expect in good writing. They make writing easy to read and understand. A reader may not even notice when conventions are well done, but might be distracted from the good ideas that were so carefully planned if the conventions are poorly handled. This is the most mechanical of the six traits and requires writers to learn editing and proofreading skills.

Did you understand and correct the errors that Word (or Utah Compose) underlined in red or green? (Circle one.) YES NO

Now go back to the draft you reviewed at the beginning of this assignment. REVISE the essay based on what you have done here. Resubmit it to Utah Compose one final time. A score for your term paper will not be entered until this worksheet is completed and turned in. After this page is submitted, you will not be able to do further revisions.

Due Date: This paper must be submitted no later than _____

Final Score from Utah Compose: _____

Final Score from T: _____