

<b>DISCUSSION RUBRIC</b>					
<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>score</b>
Opening	Clear focus on & thorough introduction of topic.	Topic is introduced with sufficient focus on topic.	Little focus on topic.	No focus on topic.	
Development of ideas	Interesting, sophisticated, insightful. Strongly supports thesis.	Development of ideas is clear, evident, and supports thesis.	Simplistic. Ideas do not support thesis.	Absent or ineffective.	
Paragraph development	Each paragraph clearly and consistently relates to the main idea, contributes to an effective argument, and reinforces content; with smooth transitions.	Many paragraphs relate to main idea, contribute to an effective argument, and reinforce the content; often uses smooth transitions.	Some paragraphs relate to main idea, contribute to an effective argument, and have transitions.	Fewer or no paragraphs relate to main idea, contribute to an effective argument or have transitions.	
Supporting evidence and details	Uses many examples, reasons, facts & explanations that are relevant, appropriate & convincing.	Uses examples, reasons, details, and explanations that are sufficient and accurate.	Some examples, reasons, details, etc. are sufficient and accurate.	Vague, missing, inaccurate evidence.	
Logic	Conclusions & inferences based on sound scientific reasoning.	Conclusions & inferences mostly based on sound scientific reasoning.	Logic not clear.	Illogical.	
Conclusion	Based on evidence collected & analyzed in this research project. Extends, connects, comments on key ideas and topics.	Refers to data collected & analyzed in this research project. Summarizes main ideas, echoes key concepts.	Not clearly connected to data collected & analyzed in this research project. Restates main idea.	Not based on data collected & analyzed in this research project. No mention of main idea or key concepts.	
Implications	Clearly illustrates significance of research & explains need & nature of follow-up studies.	Some explanation of importance of research & suggests follow-up studies	Relevance of research not clear.	Relevance of work not discussed.	
Suggested improvements	Provides clear, powerful, specific and logical discussion of the improvements that could be made.	Provides a specific and logical discussion of the improvements that could be made.	Provides a general but logical discussion of the improvements that could be made.	Provides an unclear and/or illogical discussion of the improvements that could be made.	
				<b>TOTAL</b>	