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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| **Claim**  The claim (topic sentence) guides the reader to expect evidence. | Topic and purpose are clearly introduced with a topic sentence. | Introduces the topic clearly | Topic is less clearly stated, but can be inferred | Topic is not clear |
| **Evidence**  Supports claim | Skillfully supports the topic sentence with precise   * facts * definitions * concrete details * quotations * other information & examples | Relevant and sufficient:   * facts * definitions * concrete details * quotations * other information & examples | Uses some facts and details, but needs more for clarity | Does not use relevant or sufficient facts or details |
| **Analysis**  Connects evidence to claim through reasoning using writer’s own words | Skillfully connects all the evidence to the claim using thoughtful and/or advanced   * transitions * analogies * comparisons * evaluations * connections | Transitions between sentences  Connects most evidence to claim and thesis  Possible ways to analyze:   * connect to broader topic or background * compare to another piece of evidence * make an analogy * evaluate the evidence * show connections between/among individuals, events, and ideas | Uses insufficient transitions  Connects some evidence to thesis using analysis | Does not use transitions  Analysis is unclear |
| Link/Leaving  Last sentence of the paragraph; draws a conclusion | Leaving sentence follows from the ideas presented and conveys the importance or implication of the information | Leaving sentence follows from and supports the ideas presented, perhaps restating the claim in different words. | Leaving sentence does not fit the topic completely | Leaving sentence is unclear or missing |