

**WRITING RUBRIC
WAGNER COLLEGE**

CRITERIA	5 OUTSTANDING	4 ACCOMPLISHED	3 EFFECTIVE	2 ACCEPTABLE	1 UNACCEPTABLE
<u>Content And Development</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses material that challenges the intelligence of the intended audience • Projects a single focus through the entire paper • Demonstrates keen awareness of the intended audience • Artfully develops the focus of paper (e.g., significant and interesting details, examples, and discussions) • Uses a wide variety of well-developed and supported ideas • Artfully introduces and integrates relevant sources (if required) into the surrounding discussion • Responds to the writing assignment beyond expectation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses material that stimulates the intelligence of the intended audience • Emphasizes a single focus through the entire paper • Demonstrated continual awareness of the intended audience • Consistently develops the focus of paper with interesting discussion, details, and examples • Uses a variety of well-developed and supported ideas • Clearly introduces and integrates relevant sources (if required) into the discussion • Fully and directly responds to the writing assignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses material that engages the intelligence of the intended audience • Maintains a single focus through the entire paper • Appeals to the intended audience but may shift focus, topics, ideas • Develops the focus of the paper • Uses some well-developed ideas and supported ideas • Generally introduces and integrates relevant sources (if required) into the discussion • Directly responds to the writing assignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses material that is reasonable, but may not fully engage the audience • A single focus is evident, but may wander from the main idea • Appears to present descriptions and ideas with an audience in mind • Focus is stated, but is not developed with details, examples, and discussions • Ideas are stated, but are not original nor developed with supported ideas • Outside sources (if required) are generally relevant—though not always clearly introduced or integrated in the discussion • Acceptable response to the assignment, but aspects of the overall task may be slighted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses material that does not fully engage the audience • No single focus runs through the entire paper • Does not appear to have the needs of the audience in mind • Focus not stated nor developed with details, examples, or discussions • Few ideas are stated or developed • Outside sources (if required), and if used at all, are not clearly introduced or integrated • Inadequate response to the assignment
<u>Organization</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully states and emphasizes the focus of the paper • Contains an overall pattern artfully conceived • Carefully develops focus by way of a sequence of logically related paragraphs • Purposefully organizes and substantially develops paragraphs with supporting evidence or detailed examples • The opening is inviting and challenging, and appropriate to the topic and thesis • Contains smooth and purposeful transitions with sophisticated appearance or effect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly states and emphasizes the focus of the paper • Contains an overall pattern carefully conceived • Consistently develops focus by way of a sequence of logically related paragraphs • Effectively organizes and substantially develops paragraphs with supporting evidence or detailed examples • The opening is stimulating, and mirrors the topic and thesis • Contains smooth and purposeful transitions among sentences and between paragraphs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a stated and emphasized focus • Contains an overall pattern for the essay to follow • Generally develops focus by way of a sequence of logically related paragraphs • Organizes and develops paragraphs with supporting evidence or detailed examples • The opening is effective, and matches the topic and thesis • Contains appropriate transitions among sentences and between paragraphs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has an identifiable focus that is the general focus of the paper • Contains an overall pattern, but may lack clarity • Generally develops focus, but some paragraphs may appear out of sequence or slightly off-track • Paragraphs tend to lack richness of evidence or detailed examples • The opening generally matches the topic and thesis • Transitions are evident, but may be abrupt or mechanical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No focus or overly general and unclear • No clear pattern for the essay to follow • Development is evident but unsuccessful (e.g., paragraphs frequently unrelated or repetitive) • Paragraphs are poorly constructed and contain little supporting detail • The opening is overly general, missing, or misleading • Transitions are weak, ineffective, or missing

CRITERIA	5 OUTSTANDING	4 ACCOMPLISHED	3 EFFECTIVE	2 ACCEPTABLE	1 UNACCEPTABLE
<u>Style</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied sentence length and structure in a sophisticated way (rhythm, parallel structure, sentence beginnings, etc.) in the writing task Sentences are clear, logical, and so enjoyable to read that the reader is thoroughly engrossed in the ideas the sentences elicit Word choice is precise, interesting, effective, and leaves a strong impression on the reader The writer's voice complements the assignment's purpose and suits the audience, and is consistent and pervasive throughout the writing task The language is mature, sophisticated, and idiomatic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied sentence length and structure effectively and appropriately in the writing task Sentences are clear, logical, and enjoyable to read Word choice is effective, and leaves an impression on the reader The writer's voice complements the assignment's purpose and suits the audience, and is consistent throughout the writing task The language is mature and idiomatic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied sentence length and structure effectively Sentences are clear, logical, and effective Word choice may be well-chosen, but some may not be as precise or apt as they could be The writer's voice complements the assignment's purpose and suits the audience The language is mature and idiomatic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sentences tend to be basic, choppy, or structurally repetitive Sentences are generally correct, but ideas may be hard to follow from one part of the paper to the next Word choice may be repetitive or simplistic The writer's voice, though evident, appears at times inappropriate to the assignment's purpose and audience Occasional errors in standard idiom occur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sentences are frequently basic, choppy, or repetitive Sentence errors are frequent, impeding effective communication and requiring rereading of sentences Word choice is repetitive and simplistic; word choice errors are frequent and annoying The writer's voice is bland, absent, or inappropriate to the assignment's purpose and audience Many problems with standard idiom
<u>Mechanics</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains few or no errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage. Format is correct and appropriate References to outside sources (if required) are cited and documented according to the appropriate style sheet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains few errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage. Format is correct and appropriate References to outside sources (if required) are cited and documented according to the appropriate style sheet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occasional errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and usage which does not impede communication Format is correct and appropriate. References to outside sources (if required) are generally cited and documented according to the appropriate style sheet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, or usage occasionally interfere with communication, and damage the writer's credibility Format is generally correct and appropriate References to outside sources (if required) are generally cited and documented, but not always in the appropriate style 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation or usage impede communication and undercut the writer's credibility Format is not always correct or appropriate References to outside sources (if required) are not clearly cited; documentation style is generally inappropriate