**Essay Question Rubric**

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| **Traits:** | **3 (complete)** | **2 (partial)** | **1 (minimal)** |
| **Content**   * Uses relevant details/examples from text to support answer * Explains details/examples * Stays on topic | Answer is relevant with many details and examples to support point. | Answer is relevant but has few details to support or explain the answer. | Answers question with misinterpretation.  Little or no relevance to text or question.  Ideas and content are not developed or connected. |
| **Organization**   * Restates prompt as topic sentence. (Beginning) * Uses transitions to connect ideas (Middle) * Concludes with clincher/opinion (Conclusion | Student restates prompt and response is written in a logical sequence that makes connections. Conclusion engages the reader. | Student addresses the prompt in the answer and events are retold in a somewhat disconnected structure.  Conclusion is partially successful. | Students answer either “yes.” “no,” or “I agree” without reference to the prompt and writing lacks sequence.  The conclusion is ineffective or does not exist. |
| **Style/Voice**   * Sentence Variety and Fluency * Diction (word choice) * Present Verb Tense | Sentences are varied and fluent.  Word choice is precise.  Consistently maintains present tense. | Sentences are complete yet lacking fluency/variety.  Vocabulary is general/basic.  Maintains present tense with some inconsistencies. | Sentences are incomplete.  Vocabulary is limited.  Mostly incorrect verb tense (past). |