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| **Criteria** | **4 - Exceeds** | **3 - Meets** | **2 - Developing** | **1 - Insufficient** |
| *Claim/Topic* | The response focuses on a topic to inform a reader with ideas, concepts, and information or presents a claim that takes a position **and connects to outside texts or issues** while providing and refuting counterclaims. | The response **focuses on a topic** to inform a reader with ideas, concepts, and information or **presents a claim** that takes an arguable position and **provides and refutes counterclaims.** | The response has an **unclear** topic or **unarguable** claim or **does not refute counterclaims.** | The response **did not provide** a topic or claim or counterclaim. |
| *Evidence* | The response provides relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, text evidence, quotations, and examples **from outside, credible sources** that develop and explainthe topic or claim. | The response provides **relevant** facts, definitions, concrete details, text evidence, quotations, and examples **that develop and explain** the topic or claim. | The response provides **irrelevant or unsupportive** facts, definitions, concrete details, text evidence, quotations, and examples that **do not develop and explain** the topic or claim. | The response **did not provide** facts, details, or text evidence to support their topic or claim. |
| *Analysis / Explanation* | The response explainsthe relationships between the topic/claim and the evidence and/or facts **using extended metaphors and analogies** or provides **extensive** evidence and relevant reasoning to support the topic or claim. | The response **explains** the relationships between the topic/claim and the evidence and/or facts or **provides sufficient evidence and relevant reasoning** to support the topic or claim. | The response **provides little explanation** on relationships between the topic/claim and the evidence and/or facts or **provides insufficient evidence and/or irrelevant reasoning** to support the topic or claim. | The response **does not explain** the relationships between topics/claims and evidence, or **does not provide** reasoning to support the topic or claim. |
| *Organization* | The response has a structure and organization (transitions, context, etc.) carefully constructed to support the claim. The conclusion effectively strengthens the topic or claim and **extends and applies the idea to a wide audience.** | The response **has a structure and organization** **(transitions, context, etc.)** carefully constructed to support the claim. The **conclusion effectively strengthens** the topic or claim. | The response is **missing elements of structure and organization** (transitions, context, etc.)**.** The conclusion **merely restates** the topic or claim. | The response **lacks a structure and/or a conclusion.** |

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| **Scoring Guide:**  16=100%  15=99%  14=97%  13=95%  12=93%  11=89%  10=87%  9=85%  8=83% | 7=79%  6=77%  5=75%  4=73%  3=70%  2=67%  1=65% |