Writing Rubric: Writing a Research Report

	Ideas	Organization	
6	 The report demonstrates a complete, clear understanding of the assignment. The report addresses a very interesting topic. The report provides a clear and insightful point about the topic. The report shows a deep understanding of the complexity and nuances of the topic. The report demonstrates a very clear purpose and focus. The selection of relevant information as supporting evidence is sensible and insightful. The development of the ideas is thorough and perfectly logical. The report demonstrates a great deal of originality and creativity. The report completely avoids plagiarism through the effective use of quotations and paraphrasing. 	 The introduction effectively focuses on the topic. The report includes a clear, direct thesis statement that conveys the writer's attitude about the topic. The opening provides a clear focus for the report. The focus is clearly and effectively maintained throughout the report. The body is presented in a completely logical order. The supporting factual information is exceptionally explicit and thorough. Transitions are seamless. The conclusion effectively reviews the most important points presented in the report. 	
5	 The report demonstrates a clear understanding of the assignment. The report addresses an interesting topic. The report makes a clear point about the topic. The report shows an understanding of the complexity of the topic. The report demonstrates a clear purpose and focus. The selection of supporting evidence is sensible. The development of the ideas is generally thorough and logical. The report demonstrates good originality and creativity. The report generally avoids plagiarism through the use of quotations and paraphrasing. 	 The introduction focuses on the topic. The report includes a clear thesis statement that generally conveys the writer's attitude about the topic. The focus is maintained throughout the report. The body is presented in a generally logical order. The factual information is clear and thorough. Transitions are effective. The conclusion reviews the most important points. 	
4	 The report demonstrates a basic understanding of the assignment. The report addresses a somewhat intriguing topic. The report makes a considered point about the topic. The report shows an understanding of the complexity of the topic but is not nuanced. The report includes a purpose and focus, but it is not always clear. The selection of evidence is generally sensible. The development of the ideas is mostly complete and logical. The report shows some originality and creativity. The report uses quotations and paraphrasing, but the line separating quoted material from the writer's own content is not always clear. 	 The introduction mentions the topic, but it is not entirely clear. The report includes a thesis statement that generally conveys the writer's attitude about the topic. The focus is generally clear, but not always. The order is generally logical but sometimes confusing. The factual information is generally clear and includes some details. Transitions are used. The conclusion recalls some important points. 	
3	 The report demonstrates some understanding of the assignment, but it is not complete. The report addresses a somewhat humdrum topic. The report suggests a point about the topic, but it is not clear. The report shows an incomplete or sometimes inaccurate understanding of the complexity of the topic. The report suggests a purpose and focus, but it is rarely clear. The supporting evidence is not always appropriate or relevant. The development of the ideas is not entirely complete or logical. The report only occasionally shows originality and creativity. The division between quoted or paraphrased material from the writer's own content is not always clear. 	 The introduction's focus on the topic of the report is not entirely clear and may be missing. The report includes a thesis statement but it does not convey the writer's attitude about the topic. The focus is not always clear. The order is often illogical or confusing. The factual information is generally clear but lacks details. Transitions are not always used. The conclusion notes only a few of the report's main points. 	
2	 The report demonstrates little understanding of the assignment. The report's topic is not compelling. The report's point about the topic is not clear. The report shows little or an inaccurate understanding of the topic. The report's purpose and focus is not clear. The supporting evidence is often irrelevant. The development of the ideas is generally incomplete or illogical. The report shows little originality and creativity. The division between quoted or paraphrased material from the writer's own content is not clear and gives the impression of plagiarism. 	 The introduction does not provide a focus. The report does not include an easily identified thesis statement. The focus is generally unclear. The report is presented in a confusing order. The factual information is unclear and lacks details. Transitions are rarely used. The conclusion does not review the report's main points. 	
1	 The assignment is not understood. The report's topic is not at all interesting. No point about the topic is made. The report shows no understanding of the topic. The report has no purpose or focus. No supporting evidence is included. Ideas are not developed. The report shows no originality and creativity. Portions or all of the report are plagiarized. 	 No introduction is presented. The report does not include a thesis statement. The focus is unclear. The report is in random, unconnected order. No supporting factual information is presented. Transitions are not used. No conclusion is presented. 	

Voice	Word Choice & Sentence Fluency	Conventions
 The writer's voice is clear, consistent, and sincere throughout the report. Writer's voice is perfectly attuned to the subject matter of the report. The writer's voice is exceptionally appropriate to the intended audience of the report. The report's tone demonstrates exceptional understanding of the research subject. 	 The word choice is exceptionally precise and accurate. The word choice is vivid and effective, with lively descriptive words used. When necessary, literary terms are used appropriately and effectively. Sentences vary in length and structure. Ideas are clearly and smoothly connected using transition words and phrases. 	 All words are spelled correctly. The report contains no errors in English usage or grammar. The report contains no errors in punctuation. The report contains no errors in capitalization.
 The writer's voice is consistent and sincere throughout the report. Writer's voice is appropriate to the subject matter of the report. The writer's voice is appropriate to the intended audience of the report. The report's tone demonstrates an understanding of the research subject. 	 The word choice is generally precise and accurate. The word choice is effective, with descriptive words used. Generally as necessary, literary terms are used appropriately. Sentences vary somewhat in length and structure. Ideas are generally connected using transition words and phrases. 	Almost all words are spelled correctly. The report contains almost no errors in English usage or grammar. The report contains almost no errors in punctuation. The report contains almost no errors in capitalization.
 The writer's voice is somewhat consistent throughout the report, but sincerity is not obvious. Writer's voice is generally appropriate to the subject matter of the report. The writer's voice is generally appropriate to the intended audience of the report. The report's tone demonstrates some understanding of the research subject. 	 Word choices reflect thought but are not always precise or accurate. Descriptive phrasing is attempted but is not always effective or relevant. Some literary terms are used, generally appropriately. Sentences vary somewhat in length and structure but could use more variation. Ideas are usually connected using transition words and phrases, but not always. 	 Some spelling errors occur, but not enough to impede understanding. The report contains some errors in usage or grammar, but not enough to impede understanding. The report contains some errors in punctuation, but not enough to impede understanding. The report contains a few errors in capitalization.
 Writer's voice is not always consistent, and sincerity may be lacking. Writer's voice is not always 	 Word choices reflect thought but are often not precise or accurate. Descriptive phrasing is occasionally attempted but is not effective or is irrelevant. Some literary terms are used, but often not appropriately. Sentences only occasionally vary in length and structure. Ideas are only occasionally connected using transition words and phrases. 	Some spelling errors may impede understanding. Errors in usage or grammar may impede understanding at times. Errors in punctuation may impede understanding at times. Errors in capitalization may intrude on understanding.
 Writer's voice is generally inconsistent and often insincere. Writer's voice is sometimes inappropriate to the subject matter, but often not. Writer's voice is sometimes inappropriate to the intended audience of the report. The report's tone demonstrates very little understanding of the research subject. 	 Word choices are generally not precise or accurate. Descriptive phrasing is rarely used. Sentences and paragraphs may not flow together. Sentences rarely vary in length and structure. Ideas are rarely connected using transition words and phrases. 	 Spelling errors impede understanding. The report contains numerous errors in usage or grammar. Errors in punctuation often impede understanding. The report contains numerous errors in capitalization.
 Writer's voice is not consistent or sincere. Writer's voice is not appropriate to the subject matter. Writer's voice is not appropriate for the audience. The report's tone demonstrates no understanding of the research subject. 	 Word choices are haphazard and inappropriate. Descriptive phrasing is not used. Sentences and paragraphs do not flow together. Sentences do not vary in length and structure. Ideas are not connected using transition words and phrases. 	 Numerous spelling errors prevent understanding. Numerous errors in usage or grammar impede understanding. Numerous errors in punctuation impede understanding. Numerous errors in capitalization impede understanding.