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|  | Mastery | Developing | Novice | Does Not Meet Expectations |
| Assertion | Topic/Position clearly stated | Topic/Position clearly stated | Topic/Position clearly stated | No Topic Statement or Position |
| Evidence | Appropriate examples  Writing is clear, coherent | Examples provided, but could be stronger or tied to sentence topic better | One example provided  Not clearly tied to sentence topic  Example is weak | Concepts not clear  Content is inaccurate  Question not  answered |
| Content & Commentary | Concepts are clear  Content is accurate  Writing is coherent  Excellent organization of  ideas | Concepts are generally clear  Ideas are not fully expressed  Writing is generally coherent  Vocabulary can be improved  Organization of ideas is good | Concepts are not clearly explained  Ideas need more development  Content is generally accurate but lacks  some clarity  Vocabulary needs improvement  Organization of ideas needs  improvement | No examples provided  Or  Inappropriate examples |
| Grammar | No errors in:  Capitalization of proper nouns  Sentence structure sound &  varied  Pronoun usage  Verb agreement  Transitions | One or two errors in:  Sentence structure generally  sound & varied  Pronoun usage  Verb agreement  Transitions present but need  more | Three errors in:  Sentence structure weak or not varied  Pronoun usage  Verb agreement  Transitions lacking or ineffective | Does not capitalize all proper nouns  Does not write in complete sentences  More than three grammatical errors |