

RTTP Paper Rubric

	Excellent --->			<-- Needs Improvement
Argument	I make strong arguments to support my character's stance. I also discuss arguments against my stance and refute them.	I make a claim but don't explain why it is controversial. I make strong arguments to support my character's stance.	My claim is buried, confused and/or unclear.	I don't say what my argument or claim is.
Primary Sources	I support my arguments by analyzing primary source quotations and citations	I quote and cite primary sources.	I list some related facts from primary sources. However, my case is not particularly strong.	I do not give any primary source evidence to support my character's stance.
Secondary Sources	I have clearly engaged with and cited peer-reviewed scholarly secondary sources (<u>not</u> websites).	My writing has some connections to secondary sources but I need to deepen those connections.	I cited sources, but none of them were peer-reviewed.	I appear to have written this paper off the top of my head.
Voice and Tone	It sounds like I care about my argument. I show how I think and feel about it.	My tone is OK but my paper could have been written by anyone. I need to tell more about how I think and feel.		My writing is too formal or too informal. It sounds like I don't like the topic of the essay.
Accuracy	My historical statements and facts are very accurate. I show an excellent understanding of relevant historical context.	There are occasional mistakes in my historical statements. I show a good understanding of relevant historical context.	There are many historical inaccuracies. Context is missing or inaccurate.	There are enough mistakes that this paper is misleading.
Organization	My writing has a compelling opening, an informative middle and a satisfying conclusion.	My writing has a beginning, middle and end. It marches along but doesn't dance.	My writing is organized but sometimes gets off topic.	My writing is aimless and disorganized.
Word choice	The words I use are striking but natural, varied and vivid.	I make routine word choices.	The words I use are often dull or uninspired or sound like I am trying too hard to impress.	I use the same words over and over and over and over. Some words may be confusing to a reader.
Sentence fluency	My sentences are clear, engaging, and of varying lengths.	My writing is clear but could be more engaging.	My sentences are sometimes awkward, and/or contain run-ons and fragments.	Many run-ons, fragments and awkward phrasings make my essay hard to read.
Conventions	I use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	I generally use correct conventions. I have a couple of errors I should fix.	I have enough errors in my essay to distract a reader.	Numerous errors make my paper hard to read.