Short Answer Rubric

Writing will be scored according to the following three categories: Organization and Thesis, Development, and Language/Style. Each of these categories is worth a total of ten points possible, as is represented by the score numerals across the top. Scores for each category will be based on how the quality of the writing best fits the descriptions in each category. If writing quality fits best between two descriptions, the boxed numeral between the two categories will be the score for that category. The final score of the short answer will be the sum of the three category scores divided by a total of 30 points possible. (See score conversion chart below.)

Score	2 (1)	4 (3)	6 (5)	8 (7)	10 (9)
Organization and Thesis	Thesis is missing. Answer may not be accurate.	Thesis is unclear. Transitions are missing.	Thesis is weak or generic. Transitions are present and somewhat effective.	Thesis is clear. Transitions are present and clear.	Thesis is clear and specific. Transitions are present and enhance the flow of ideas.
Development and Support	Text evidence may be the only thing present. Ideas are not original; may be only echoes of the text.	Text evidence may be present but is not connected to the thesis. Original ideas are present but not reasonable.	Text evidence is present and somewhat connects to the thesis. Original ideas are present but demonstrate only a literal reading of the text.	Text evidence is present and clearly connects to the thesis. Original ideas are present and go beyond a literal reading of the text.	Text evidence is present and the connection enhances the thesis. Original ideas demonstrate and understanding of the complexities of the text.
Language and Style	Word choice does not match task. No sentence boundaries. Grammar errors disrupt fluency of the response.	Word choice is vague. Sentence structure is awkward. Grammar errors distracted from the response.	Word choice is somewhat appropriate, but lacking in precision. Grammar errors are present but not distracting.	Word choice is clear and contributes to an appropriate tone. Grammar errors are minor and not distracting.	Word choice and sentence structure are precise, purposeful, and contribute to the overall quality of the response.

30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
100	97	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	57	53	50	47	43	40	37	33	30	27	23	20	17	13	10	7	3