

MARKING RUBRIC

Comparative Essay

Name

Date



	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Developing	Limited
Thesis and Argument	Clear, insightful, and sophisticated thesis that establishes meaningful comparison and contrast	Clear thesis with some sophistication, identifies main points of comparison and contrast	Thesis is present but simplistic or partially unclear; main points are basic	Thesis is vague or incomplete; limited comparison/contrast focus	No clear thesis or focus; comparison and contrast unclear
Analysis and Insights	Sophisticated analysis; shows nuanced understanding of similarities, differences, and significance; insightful connections	Solid analysis; explains most similarities and differences; some insight	Basic analysis; identifies some similarities and/or differences; limited insight	Minimal analysis; mostly description with little interpretation	No analysis; only summary or off-topic ideas
Organization and Structure	Well-structured essay; logical flow; smooth transitions; integrated or block structure fully effective	Clear organization; mostly logical flow; transitions present; integrated/block structure mostly effective	Organization evident but uneven; transitions may be weak; block or integrated structure attempted	Organization is confusing or inconsistent; little use of transitions	No discernible structure; ideas are scattered or disconnected
Evidence or Examples	Excellent selection of relevant textual evidence/examples; effectively supports comparisons and contrasts	Good selection of evidence/examples; mostly supports points	Adequate evidence or examples; occasionally unclear or weakly linked to comparison	Limited or weak evidence; connection to points unclear	Little to no evidence; unsupported claims
Language, Style and Mechanics	Clear, precise, and fluent language; excellent sentence variety; minimal to no errors	Clear language; mostly correct grammar/spelling; minor errors	Language is adequate; some errors in grammar/spelling; sentence variety limited	Language is unclear; frequent grammar/spelling errors; awkward phrasing	Language unclear; pervasive errors; difficult to read