

## 9-Point Paragraph Rubric

### Exceeds Proficiency

9-8 Point Paragraph: ++

9 points = 100/100

8 points = 95/100

- Precise claim controls the paragraph with sophistication
- Substantial textual evidence, cited in MLA and integrated into the piece seamlessly
- Clear, concise, insightful explanation, detailing how the evidence supports the claim
- Supportive logic and reasoning defend claim based on evidence, showing insightful understanding of the topic
- Clincher sentence wraps up paragraph with a final point to consider seriously or a challenge to apply ideas expressed
- Variety of transitions promote unity
- Strong verbs, exact nouns, and colorful modifiers showcase ideas
- Variety of sentences
- Little to no convention errors
- 3<sup>rd</sup> person, active voice

### Proficient

7-5 Point Paragraph: +

7 Points = 90/100

6 Points = 85/100

5 Points = 80/100

- Precise claim controls the paragraph
- Textual evidence supports claim, cited in MLA
- Analyzes more than describes how the evidence supports the claim
- Valid logic and reasoning shows competent understanding of the topic
- Wraps up paragraph repetitively or partially supports the claim
- Transitions used to some degree or not varied
- Word choice is functional
- Sentences varied to some degree
- Few convention errors
- 3<sup>rd</sup> person, active voice

**MUST have evidence supporting analysis to advance to at least a 5!**

**Approaching Proficiency**

4-3 Point Paragraph: +/-

4 Points = 75/100

3 Points = 70/100

- Underdeveloped claim or restates the prompt
- Insufficient or little relevant evidence
- Evidence not cited
- Summarizes the text and/or restates evidence instead of analyzing it, showing limited, simplistic, and/or flawed logic and reasoning
- Inadequate or off-topic conclusion
- Few transitions and/or sentence beginnings lack variety
- Emerging but limited control of word choice
- Emerging but limited sentence variety
- Convention errors detract from paragraph quality
- Ideas lack focus

**Below Proficiency**

2-0 Point Paragraph: –

2 Points = 65/100

1 Point = 60/100

0 Points = 55/100

- No claim or claim does not address prompt
- Inaccurate or no evidence
- Shows no understanding of the topic with an analysis or reasoning
- Omits conclusion
- No transitions
- Numerous convention errors
- Lacks sentence mastery
- Limited word choice