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| Component | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |  |
| Introduction  (Organization) | There is no clear introduction of the main topic, position, or structure of the paper. | The introduction states the main topic or position, but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper not is it particularly inviting to the reader | The introduction clearly states the main topic and position and previews the structure of the paper, but is not particularly inviting to the reader | The introduction is inviting, states the main topic and position and previews the structure of the paper. |  |
| Focus on Topic  (Content) | The main idea is not clear. There is a seemingly random collection of information. | Main idea is somewhat clear but there is a need for more supporting information. | Main idea is clear but the supporting information is general. | There is one clear, well-focused topic. Main idea stands out and is supported by detailed information. |  |
| Support for Topic  (Content) | Supporting details and information are typically unclear or not related to the topic. | Supporting details and information are relevant, but several key issues or portions are unsupported. | Supporting details and information are relevant, but one key issue or portion is unsupported. | Relevant, telling quality details give the reader important information that goes beyond the obvious or predictable. |  |
| Conclusion  (Organization) | There is no clear conclusion, the paper just ends. | The conclusion is recognizable, but does not tie up several loose ends | The conclusion is recognizable and ties up almost all the loose ends. | The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader with a feeling that they understand what the writer is “getting at.” |  |
| Grammar & Spelling  (Conventions) | Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. |  |
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