Senior Professional Project Research Paper Rubric

AREA	5	4	3	2	1
Ideas	Insightful discussion of job as well as strong integration of personal information and reflection	Provides good information about the job as well as some discussion about personal reflection	Provides sufficient information about the job with limited discussion about appropriateness to the writer	Limited discussion of job with mainly facts and little analysis or personal reflection	Incomplete discussion of job with limited to no analysis or personal reflection; main ideas undefined and lack substance
Coherence and Organization	Demonstrates mastery of effective paragraph development and sequencing, using clear, nicely phrased topic sentences, apt and specific references integration of job information and personal reflection	Demonstrates effective essay & paragraph development, with specific references and analysis of both data and personal reflection	Demonstrates awareness of correct development with recognizable topic sentences and incorporation of evidence and analysis; the essay may be less fully developed than a 4 or 5	Lacks understanding of essay and paragraph development; fails to include a recognizable topic sentence, evidence, and/or analysis	Ideas are loosely strung together; writing has no real sense of direction, and order feels random or disjointed
Voice	The tone and flavor of the piece are well-suited to the topic, purpose, and audience, bearing a unique imprint of the writer	Tone and flavor are appropriate to writing task; has moments of uniqueness	Tone and flavor of the piece seem acceptable, but not strongly energetic or individual	Lacks individuality and/or consistent appropriateness to writing task	Does not suit topic or audience; lacks individuality and focus
Word Choice	Uses a sophisticated, mature vocabulary with grace and seeming familiarity, with an awareness of connotation and tone	Uses a sophisticated, mature vocabulary	Uses a vocabulary appropriate for grade level, adequate for expressing the writer's ideas, containing few (if any) misused words	Uses common words inaccurately, and vocabulary is inadequate for expressing ideas	Writer struggles with limited vocabulary, using incorrect words that confuse reader
Sentence Fluency	Demonstrates control of effective sentence structures, especially use of subordinate clauses, participial and other phrases, and rhetorical devices	Demonstrates control of sentence structures, correctly using a variety of simple, compound, and especially complex sentences	Demonstrates control of basic sentence structures, especially correct subject-verb agreement, and an awareness of subordination, is free from making egregious errors such as sentence fragments and run-on sentences	Lacks control of sentence structures as evidenced by unintentional fragments, run-on sentences, or several subject-verb agreement errors	Irregular sentence patterns, fragments, and/or repetitive sentence structures that make meaning difficult to discern
Conventions	Is free of convention errors and uses MLA accurately	Is relatively free of convention errors and may have one or two minor MLA issues	May occasionally err in conventions such as spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar, but errors are minor and do not distract from sentence meaning	Contains an unacceptable number of spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar errors; said errors are numerous and distracting, and MLA usage is inappropriate	Writer demonstrates limited control over widely-used conventions; extensive editing necessary to discern meaning

Expected Maximum Points Per Category (100 Total)

NOTE: The figures below provide a range of points that should help you predict your eventual score. Not all papers earning a 4 in "Ideas," for example, will earn thirteen points – some could earn thirteen-and-a-half or fourteen points instead. Many papers have at least one category where the ultimate score lies somewhere between a 5 and a 4, or a 3 and a 2. In other words, take these figures as helpful suggestions rather than numbers carved in stone.

AREA	5	4	3	2	1
Ideas	20	17	15	11	7
Coherence and Organization	15	13	11	9	7
Voice	15	13	11	9	7
Word Choice	17	15	13	11	7
Sentence Fluency	18	15	13	11	7
Conventions	15	13	10	8	6