

John Stark Essay Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>5-Exemplary</b>	<b>4-Proficient</b>	<b>3-Basic</b>	<b>2-Unsatisfactory</b>
<b>First Draft</b>	First Draft with teacher comments is included.			First draft with teacher comments is not included.
<b>Introduction (x2)</b> _____/10	Has an effective grabber, a lead of at least three sentences, and a clearly stated thesis statement that gives the paper direction.	Is missing a grabber <b>OR</b> has a weak lead, but has a clearly stated thesis statement that gives the paper direction.	Is missing a grabber <b>AND</b> has a weak lead, but has a clearly stated thesis statement that gives the paper direction.	Is missing a grabber <b>AND</b> has a weak lead, and the thesis statement is unclear or missing.
<b>Body Paragraph Construction (x3)</b> _____/15	All paragraphs include topic sentence, relevant supporting details with excellent explanations, and a clincher.	All paragraphs include topic sentence, relevant supporting details with adequate explanations, and a clincher.	Most paragraphs include topic sentence and clincher, but lack either relevant supporting details <b>OR</b> adequate explanations.	Most paragraphs lack topic sentence and/or clincher. They lack relevant supporting details or adequate explanations.
<b>Conclusion (x2)</b> _____/10	Doesn't merely repeat previous ideas, it synthesizes them, showing the reader how details and examples support the thesis. Makes a connection to the reader.	Restates focus; reminds the reader of key points using new wording. Makes a connection to the reader.	Restates the focus; reminds the reader of key points. Does not make a connection to the reader.	Doesn't restate focus or remind the reader of key points. Doesn't make a connection to the reader.
<b>Support of Thesis or Controlling Idea (x12)</b> _____/60	Excellent details and/or examples are used to support the thesis. Explanation and/or interpretation of the details is thorough and insightful.	Good details and/or examples are used to support the thesis. Paper could be improved by either by adding more details or by giving a more thorough explanation or interpretation of them.	Most information clearly relates to the thesis statement, but more details and/or examples are needed. Some information given may not be relevant to the thesis statement or may not be adequately explained.	Thesis statement is not adequately supported. Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic and is not properly explained.
<b>Organization (x2)</b> _____/10	Paragraphs are well-organized in a logical sequence. Transition phrases are used between paragraphs and topic changes.	Some paragraphs are out of sequence <b>OR</b> some transition phrases are missing between paragraphs and topic changes.	Some paragraphs are out of sequence <b>AND</b> some transition phrases are missing between paragraphs and topic changes.	The information appears to be disorganized. No transitions used.
<b>Writing Style (x2)</b> _____/10	Varied and specific word choice throughout. Variety in sentence structure. Tone reflects an awareness of audience.	Appropriate word choice and some sentence variety. Tone reflects an awareness of audience.	Repetitive or vague word choice <b>OR</b> lacks variety in sentence structure. Tone reflects an awareness of audience.	Repetitive or vague word choice <b>AND</b> lacks variety in sentence structure. Tone is not appropriate for the assignment or intended audience.
<b>Mechanics (x2)</b> _____/10	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	There are minor spelling or punctuation errors, but they do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the paper.	Spelling and punctuation errors slightly interfere with the reader's understanding of the paper.	Numerous spelling and punctuation errors make the paper difficult to read.
<b>Total Score:</b> _____/125	<b>Comments:</b>			