

Rubric	5 points	3 points	1 point
Ideas and Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Topic sentence is specific, relevant, interesting, and directly answers prompt. ▪ Topic sentence is supported by strong, specific, and relevant details. ▪ Many effective examples and explanations are given that support the topic sentence. ▪ The concluding sentence ties the paragraph together by reemphasizing the message of the paragraph. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Topic sentence is apparent but may be too general or trite. ▪ Topic sentence is supported by some strong and relevant evidence, but some evidence is too general or occasionally irrelevant. ▪ A concluding sentence is present but may be too general or simply restate the topic sentence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Topic sentence is confusing, unclear, irrelevant, or altogether lacking. ▪ The writing is thin, with few concrete examples or illustrations to support the generalizations. ▪ Textual evidence is irrelevant, unsupported, or lacking. ▪ A concluding sentence is unclear, irrelevant, or altogether lacking.
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paragraph begins with a clearly defined topic sentence and transitions into relevant supporting details. ▪ Paragraph moves in a logical and effective order. ▪ Evidence is placed in a logical order. ▪ Transition words and phrases are used to connect ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paragraph follows the general format (topic sentence and supporting details) but is inconsistent. ▪ Paragraph is effective but occasionally repetitive and/or unclear. ▪ Some transition words are used but may be repetitive or ineffective. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paragraph appears to have no apparent plan, purpose or format. ▪ Paragraph is underdeveloped, incoherent, or irrelevant. ▪ Transition words are weak, ineffective, or lacking.
Diction and mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All sentences are complete with no fragments, fused sentences, or comma splices. ▪ There are no spelling errors or major mechanical flaws. ▪ Sentence variety is apparent. ▪ Careful word choice is evident through use of accurate and descriptive words. ▪ The drafts demonstrate that revisions and edits were thoughtfully made in order to enhance the quality of the final draft. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Most sentences are complete, but there are some structural errors. ▪ There are some spelling and mechanical flaws that do not interfere with the coherence of the paragraph. ▪ Word choice is accurate but sometimes unoriginal or weak. ▪ Some evidence that revisions and edits were completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Many sentences are incomplete or structurally unsound. ▪ There are major spelling and mechanical flaws that interfere with the coherence of the paragraph. ▪ Words are used incorrectly or are too general and weak. ▪ Little to no evidence that the paper was thoughtfully edited and revised.

Critical Reading / Writing Prompts for Health/ Science Articles

(Select a prompt or write your own.)

I agree that _____ because _____.

I disagree with _____ because _____.

It sounds plausible that _____ because _____.

It sounds implausible that _____ because _____.

Name _____
Date _____
REA _____ - _____

Critical Reading/ Writing Assignment

Title of Article:
Author:
Source:
Date of Publication:

Topic:
Main Idea:

Supporting Details (list and number):

Author's Purpose:
Author's Tone:
Brief Summary of Article (6- 10 sentence typed paragraph attached)

Your opinion regarding relevance of support:

Your opinion regarding whether or not there is adequate support for the point:

Your opinion regarding the qualifications and credentials of the author:

Your reaction to author's point of view:

Correct Heading (5 pts.)	
Double-spaced, 12 pt. font, New Times Roman, subheads (5 pts.)	
Title of Article (5 pts.)	
Author (5 pts.)	
Source (5 pts.)	
Date of Publication (5 pts.)	
Topic (5 pts.)	
Main Idea (5 pts.)	
Supporting Details, listed and numbered (10 pts.)	
Author's Purpose (5 pts.)	
Author's Tone (5 pts.)	
Brief Summary of Article, 6-10 sentences, not in 1st person (20 pts.)	
Your opinion regarding relevance of support (5 pts.)	
Your opinion regarding adequacy of support (5 pts.)	
Your opinion regarding author's qualifications (5 pts.)	
Your reaction to author's point of view (5 pts.)	