

WVCJEA Paper Competition Rubric

	Capstone	Proficient	Novice	Limited	Score
Student's position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) (20%)	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) is imaginative, taking into account the complexities of an issue. Limits of position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) are acknowledged. Others' points of view are synthesized within position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis). (20-18 pts)	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) takes into account the complexities of an issue. Others' points of view are acknowledged within position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis). (17-16 pts.)	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) acknowledges different sides of an issue. (15-14 pts)	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) is stated, but simplistic and obvious. (13-0 pts)	
Explanation of Issues (20%)	Synthesizes in-depth information from relevant sources representing various points of view/approaches. The view/approaches are described comprehensively, delivering all relevant information necessary for full understanding. (20-18 pts)	Presents in-depth information from relevant sources representing various points of view/approaches. The view/approaches are critically stated, described, and clarified so that understanding is not seriously impeded by omissions. (17-16 pts.)	Presents information from relevant sources representing limited points of view/approaches. The description of the view/approaches leaves some terms undefined, ambiguities unexplored, boundaries undetermined, and/or backgrounds unknown. (15-14 pts)	Presents information from irrelevant sources representing limited points of view/approaches and is stated without clarification or description. (13-0 pts)	
Conclusions (20%)	Conclusions are logical and reflect students' informed evaluation and ability to place evidence and perspectives discussed in priority order. (20-18 pts)	States conclusions that are focused solely on the inquiry findings. The conclusions arise specifically from and respond specifically to the inquiry findings. (17-16 pts.)	States a general conclusion that, because it is so general, also applies beyond the scope of the inquiry findings. (15-14 pts)	States an ambiguous, illogical or unsupportable conclusion from inquiry or findings. (13-0 pts)	
Sources (10%)	Demonstrates skillful use of high-quality, credible, relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for the discipline and genre of the writing. (10-9 pts)	Demonstrates consistent use of credible, relevant sources to support ideas that are situated within the discipline and genre of writing. (8 pts.)	Demonstrates an attempt to use credible and/or relevant sources to support ideas that are appropriate for the discipline and genre of writing. (7 pts)	Demonstrates an attempt to use sources to support ideas in the writing. (6-0 pts)	
Control of Syntax and Mechanics (10%)	Uses graceful language that skillfully communicates meaning to readers with clarity and fluency, and is virtually error-free. (10-9 pts)	Uses straightforward language that generally conveys meaning to readers. The language in the paper has few errors. (8 pts.)	Uses language that generally conveys meaning to readers with clarity, although writing may include some errors. (7 pts)	Uses language that sometimes impedes meaning because of errors in usage. (6-0 pts)	
APA Citations (10%)	Cites all sources in-text using proper APA format with no errors. (10-9 pts)	Cites nearly all sources in-text using proper APA format with few minor errors. Typical minor errors include missing or improper use of ampersands, parentheses, or et al. (8 pts.)	Cites most sources in-text using proper APA format with several minor errors. Typical minor errors include missing or improper use of ampersands, parentheses, or et al. (7 pts)	Cites some sources in-text using proper APA format with many minor and/or major errors. Typical major errors include neglecting to include an in-text citation, failure to match in-text citations to references, and neglecting to include required information in an in-text citation. (6-0 pts)	
APA References (10%)	References nearly all sources in proper APA format with few minor errors (1-2). Typical minor errors include improper use of italics, improper indentation, misuse of capital letters missing or improper use of punctuation, parentheses, or fonts. (10-9 pts)	References most sources in proper APA format with several minor errors (3-4), which include, improper use of italics, improper indentation, misuse of capital letters missing or improper use of punctuation, parentheses, or fonts. (8 pts)	References some sources using proper APA format but with many major errors: failure to include a reference, omission of key reference information, including the year of the publication, volume number, state/city of the publisher, doi#, etc. (7 pts)	References few to no sources using proper APA format; contains major errors, consistently omits key reference information plus, references follow a different style (i.e., MLA, Chicago). (6-0 pts)	