**Challenges, Triumphs and Losses**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **4**  **Exceeds Standard** | **3**  **Meets Standard** | **2**  **Working Towards Standard** | **1**  **Does Not Meet Standard** |
| **Ideas & Content** | * Exceptionally clear, original, focused, and engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail | * Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate detail | * Purpose and main idea may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant detail * Some support may be general or limited | * Lacks central idea; development is minimal or non-existent |
| **Organization** | * Strong, meaningful order and structure enhanced by thoughtful transitioning * Paragraphs have topic and concluding sentences with appropriate illustration and example in the body of each. | * Organization is appropriate, with needed transitional devices present. * Most paragraphs are properly constructed with topic and concluding sentences and appropriate support | * Attempts at organization; may at times be a “list” of events. Transitions are often lacking. * Some paragraphs are properly constructed | * Lack of coherence; confusing; hard to follow * Little or no identifiable structure to paragraphs or to the whole |
| **Voice** | * Expressive, engaging, sincere * Always appropriate to audience and purpose * Shows emotion: humor, honesty, suspense or life | * Writing is clear but may lack originality or seem mechanical * Generally appropriate to audience and purpose | * Writing is sometimes immature, verbose, wordy, and/or unnatural * Sometimes not appropriate to audience and purpose | * Writing is often verbose, wordy, and/or unnatural * Shows little or no sense of audience or purpose |
| **Word Choice** | * Language is always precise and appropriate * Uses strong, fresh images | * Descriptive, broad range of words * Word choice energizes writing | * Wording is correct but mundane * Sometimes monotonous or repetitious | * Wording is imprecise, vocabulary is often misused, and poor word choice impedes reader’s comprehension |
| **Sentence Fluency** | * Sentences show a high degree of craftsmanship * Sentences patterns are varied and effective * Punctuation enhances meaning for the reader | * Sentence structure is always correct * Sentence patterns show some variety * Punctuation is always correct | * One or more sentences lack correct structure * Sentences are choppy or wandering * Sentence patterns show little variety * There are errors in punctuation | * Sentences often disjointed, confusing, and rambling * The writing is difficult to follow * There are several run-ons and/or fragments |
| **Conventions** | * Exceptionally strong control of conventions   Errors are few and minor | * Control of most writing conventions * Occasional errors do not interfere with understanding | * Limited control of conventions; frequent errors detract from content | * Frequent significant errors may impede readability |
| **Source Citation** | * All sources are cited as required by the assignment. * There is a complete Works Cited page that correspond 100% to the internal citations in the paper. | * All sources are cited as required by the assignment. * There is a complete Works Cited page that generally corresponds to the internal citations in the paper. | * Some sources are cited as required by the assignment. * There is some correspondence between the Works Cited page and the internal citations in the paper. | * Works Cited page is missing   and/or   * Internal citations are missing |