**Challenges, Triumphs and Losses**

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|  | **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
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| **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
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| **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
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| **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
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| **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
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| **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
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