

Writer:

Essay 2: Synthesis Essay

Criteria	Levels of Achievement			
	4	3	2	1
Introduction, thesis, and conclusion (x 5 =)	Intro provides context for the rest of the paper, thesis is explicit and clear, conclusion recasts thesis and provides cohesion to whole paper	Intro provides some context for the rest of the paper, thesis is implicitly stated but clear, conclusion reiterates thesis with little acknowledgement of rest of paper	Intro provides little context for the paper, thesis is implicit and hard to find, conclusion makes little reference to thesis	Intro provides no context for the paper, thesis is not explicit or not present, conclusion does not refer to thesis and does not add to cohesion of paper
Summaries (x 5 =)	Each text used is summarized clearly and succinctly with ideas that relate to the thesis	Summaries could be more clear and succinct, ideas not explicitly related to thesis	Summaries unclear and haphazard, summaries provide too much or too little information	Difficult for reader to know which text is being discussed, OR summaries are insufficient
Synthesis (x 7 =)	Well-selected points of comparison and/or departure among the texts, clearly explained relationships among the texts that support thesis	Points of comparison/ departure could be more selective and explicit although the reader can see how the texts are related	Little connection between texts, similarities/ differences seem to be randomly selected, difficult for the reader to see how the texts are related	No connection is made between texts, no similarities or differences are noted, the reader cannot see how the texts are related, is more summary than synthesis
Organization and coherence (x 5 =)	Logical order of summaries and synthesis, transition sentences and cohesion markers used effectively throughout paper	Order of summaries and synthesis could be better organized, some transition sentences and cohesion markers are used but could be more effective	Sequence of summary and synthesizing points makes sense in some of the paper but not all, transition sentences and cohesion markers are rarely used	Paragraphs seem to be out of order and haphazard, no transition sentences or cohesion markers are used
Mechanics and citations (x 3 =)	Impeccable spelling, grammar, word order, word usage, and punctuation; proper citation of texts	Very few errors in spelling, grammar, word usage, and punctuation; few errors in citations	Several errors in spelling, grammar, word order, word usage, punctuation, and citation	Many errors in spelling, grammar, word order, word usage, punctuation, and citations

Total Grade: