**Writing a Thesis Statement Rubric**

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|  | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Thesis & Position** | Topic is clear, general and obvious. The claim is very clear and concrete. Forecast(s) are included and appropriate. | Topic is obvious but potentially broad. Claim is moderately clear and concrete with forecast(s) included. | Topic is difficult to identify and position is vague. | Topic and position are unclear. |
| **Evidence & Reasons** | Evidence (forecasts) clearly support and connect to the topic. | Evidence (forecasts) connect and support, but could be more specific. | Some do not support, connect or defend position. | Vague, examples do not connect or do not support the topic. |
| **Conventions** | Clear communication without errors regarding grammar, spelling, capitalization and punctuation. | A few errors but they don’t detract from clear communication. | Numerous errors, moderately clear communication. | Numerous errors throughout, unclear communication. |

**Claim – Evidence – Commentary/Reasoning Rubric**

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|  | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Claim** | Makes an accurate and complete claim. | Makes a mostly accurate and moderately complete claim. | Makes an inaccurate or incomplete claim. | Does not make any claim. |
| **Evidence** | Provides appropriate and sufficient evidence to support the claim with proper citations. | Provides appropriate evidence, but it is not enough to completely support the claim. | Provides evidence, but it does not support the claim. | Does not provide evidence. |
| **Commentary/**  **Reasoning** | Provides reasoning that links evidence to claim. Includes appropriate and sufficient content knowledge. | Provides reasoning that links the claim and the evidence with some content knowledge demonstrated. | Provides reasoning that does not link the evidence to claim very effectively. Little content knowledge demonstrated. | Provides missing or incomplete reasoning that does not connect the evidence and claim. |
| **Conventions** | Clear communication without errors regarding grammar, spelling, capitalization and punctuation. | A few errors but they don’t detract from clear communication. | Numerous errors, moderately clear communication. | Numerous errors throughout, unclear communication. |

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