

Student Name _____

Prompt _____

2014 Synthesis Paper Rubric

Rating →	Outstanding	Sufficient	Does Not Meet Expectations	Grossly Fails to Meet Expectations
Criteria ↓	4	3	2	1
Introduction, thesis, and conclusion	Intro provides context for the rest of the paper; thesis is explicit and clear; conclusion recasts thesis and provides cohesion to whole paper 20	Either intro provides insufficient context for the rest of the paper, thesis is lacking in clarity, OR conclusion fails to recast thesis effectively 15	Intro provides little context for the paper; thesis is implicit and hard to find; conclusion makes insufficient reference to thesis 10	Intro does not provide context for the paper; thesis is undetectable; conclusion seems unrelated to the rest of the paper 5
Analysis of Works (x5)	Each text is analyzed judiciously and succinctly with ideas that clearly relate to the overall theme and effectively support the synthesis—writer uses “chunks” (observation + 2 commentary statements) with nice transitions. 25	Analyses support synthesis but could be more clearly related; all ideas are not explicitly related to thesis, and writing in the format of “chunks” is less persuasive. 20	Analyses are either unclear, too summative, or too broad/ too narrow to demonstrate relation to synthesis; little connection between summaries and synthesis 12	Summaries, poorly constructed with carelessly selected details; no connection with synthesis 8
Synthesis	Clearly identified synthesis based on well-supported and well-selected points of comparison and/or departure among the texts 20	Synthesis identifiable but could be more explicit and better developed; sufficiently supported by ideas from the texts 15	Synthesis is hard to find or poorly developed; insufficiently supported by ideas from the texts 10	No connection among texts or no apparent attempt at developing a synthesis 5
Organization and coherence	Logical sequence of paragraphs; transition sentences and cohesion markers used effectively throughout paper 20	Sequence of paragraphs is good but could be improved; some transition sentences and cohesion markers are used but could be more effective 15	Sequence of paragraphs seems to be out of logical sequence; insufficient transitions and cohesion markers 10	Paragraphs seem to be out of order and haphazard throughout; no transition sentences or cohesion markers are used 5
Mechanics, Usage, & Formatting	Superior editing – limited errors in spelling, grammar, word order, word usage, and punctuation; proper citation of texts and MLA format. 15	Good editing – few errors <u>per page</u> in spelling, grammar, word usage, and punctuation; few errors in citations 12	Careless editing – several errors <u>per paragraph</u> in spelling, grammar, word order, word usage, punctuation; several errors in citations 8	No editing – many errors throughout in spelling, grammar, word order, word usage, punctuation, and citations 4

Total Rubric Points Earned: _____ / 100
 x _____ 3

Date turned in: _____

Total Synthesis Paper Grade: _____ / 300