**Definition Essay (Honors)**

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| **W.9-10.2.** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content. | | | | |
| **Standard** | **Exceptional (10-9)** | **Proficient (8-7)** | **Emerging (6-1)** | **Not Evident (0)** |
| **2.a.** **Introduction** - Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important  connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. | \_\_\_\_Write an introduction that is clear, focused, and concise and that **creatively hooks the reader**  \_\_\_\_Provide **detailed** context to your topic that aids the reader in their understanding  \_\_\_\_Present a thesis that presents a **clear** opinion on a **narrow** topic.  \_\_\_\_Establish **an effective and sophisticated** organization to illustrate the definition element of the essay | \_\_\_\_Write an introduction that is clear, focused, and concise  \_\_\_\_Provide context to your topic  \_\_\_\_Present a thesis that presents an opinion on a topic  \_\_\_\_Establish an appropriate organization to illustrate the definition element of the essay |  |  |
| **2.b.** **Argument** - Develop the definition with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and  examples appropriate to the audience’s knowledge of the topic. | \_\_\_\_Use **effective, highly relevant**, and sufficient evidence **consistently** that is appropriate to a understanding of the audience’s knowledge  \_\_\_\_Use **textual evidence** to support your argument; provide **relevant** and **sufficient** introductions to your textual evidence.  \_\_\_\_Provide **clear** **and logical** explanations that connect the evidence to the main idea of the essay  \_\_\_\_Use formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia **effectively to** **enhance the text (if applicable)** | \_\_\_\_Use appropriate, relevant, and sufficient evidence with an understanding of the audience’s knowledge  \_\_\_\_Use textual evidence; introduce textual evidence  \_\_\_\_Provide explanations for evidence  \_\_\_\_Use appropriate formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia that is appropriately aligned with the text (if applicable) |  |  |
| **2.c**. **Organization** - Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and  clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts. | \_\_\_\_Use **effective** transitions **consistently** between and within paragraphs to link major sections of the text, to create unity and cohesion, **and to create the organization of the essay**  \_\_\_\_Organize sentences and paragraphs in a logical manner that promotes unity and focus **throughout the essay.** | \_\_\_\_Use appropriate transitions between and within paragraphs to link ideas and to create unity and cohesion  \_\_\_\_Organize sentences and paragraphs in a logical manner |  |  |
| **2.d.** **Language** - Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic.  **2.e.** **Language** - Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing. | \_\_\_\_Use precise and language and domain specific vocabulary **consistently** to manage the complexity of the topic  \_\_\_\_Use **effective** word choice and syntax **consistently** to establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone  \_\_\_\_Avoid repetition, redundancy, and wordiness to create a **concise and focused** argument | \_\_\_\_Use precise language and domain specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic  \_\_\_\_Use appropriate word choice and syntax to  establish a formal style and objective tone that is maintained throughout  \_\_\_\_Avoid repetition, redundancy, and wordiness |  |  |
| **2.f.** **Conclusion** - Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information  or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic). | \_\_\_\_Summarize the main points **using original language and clear organization**  \_\_\_\_Articulate a **extension** that addresses the implications or significance in a way that **relates to the audience** | \_\_\_\_Summarize the main points  \_\_\_\_Address implications or significance |  |  |