Exceeds Standard	Meets Standard	Approaches Standard	Far Below Standard
Well written **topic sentence** (not simple sentence) that clearly identifies event of maximum unrest.	Well written **topic sentence** (simple sentence) that clearly identifies event of maximum unrest.	Attempted **topic sentence** that either has language mechanic errors or fails to clearly identify event of maximum unrest.	Inadequate or **no topic sentence**.
Clearly **identifies two key points** that are extremely valid. Uses good transitions to show points.	Identifies **two key points** that are valid. Uses transitions to show points.	Identifies **two key points** with some validity. Does not use transitions.	Does not clearly identify **two points**. Does not use transitions.
For PT #1: Provides **two pieces of strong evidence or support;** well-written sentence; writing flows smoothly	For PT #1: Provides **two pieces of acceptable evidence or support;** adequately written sentence; writing has some flow	For PT #1: Provides **some evidence or support;** Some errors in writing; little flow between sentences	For PT #1: Provides little of **no evidence or support**; major errors in writing; no flow (disjointed)
For PT #2: Provides **two pieces of strong evidence or support;** well-written sentence; writing flows smoothly	For PT #2: Provides **two pieces of acceptable evidence or support;** adequately written sentence; writing has some flow	For PT #2: Provides **some evidence or support;** Some errors in writing; little flow between sentences	For PT #2: Provides little of **no evidence or support**; major errors in writing; no flow (disjointed)
Reworded, **well-written concluding sentence** that does not simply repeat topic sentence	Adequate **concluding sentence** that uses much the same language as topic sentence	**Attempted concluding sentence** that is almost exactly the same as topic sentence	**Missing concluding sentence**
No errors in language mechanics: Grammatical structure, agreement, verb tense, etc.	One or two **slight errors in language mechanics** that do not affect content	**More than two errors in language mechanics or a serious error** that affects content	**Many errors**; Errors profoundly affect content
No errors in spelling, capitalization, and punctuation	**One or two errors** in spelling, capitaliza-tion, and punctuation	**More than two errors** in spelling, capitaliza-tion, and punctuation	**Errors** in spelling, capitalization, and punctuation **make paragraph unintelligible**