6. The student uses explanations and examples from each text to develop or support the significance of the main idea. Details are not disconnected or redundant. Textual evidence is cited to support ideas.

(8 points possible)
Reason 2: awareness

7. The student uses appropriate word choice to clearly and effectively reflect a position, show an awareness of audience, and demonstrate strength of conviction.

*Transitions or quotations do not count.

(3 points possible)

8. The student uses descriptive language that avoids the use of is, are, was, were, am, said.

(2 points possible)

9. The student writes a well-thought out closing paragraph, consisting of at least 3 sentences. The closing is not a patterned "cut and paste" opening, nor a restatement of reasons. It brings the essay to a close, may echo the opening or use a trigger. It answers: "So What? and So Why?" You can drop the mic.

(4 points possible)

10. The student uses varied and appropriate transition words/phrases to "move" the writing logically.

(3 points possible)

11. The title is effective in capturing the reader's attention.

(2 points possible)

12. The student adheres to basic MLA guidelines in the following areas: type, header, heading, and parenthetical citations.

(3 points possible)

8 points-
- Each reason is supported with at least two examples and at least one example has at least 4 "tell-me-more" sentences. Evidence is present and cited.

7 points-
- Each reason is supported with at least two examples and at least one example has 3 "tell-me-more" sentences. Evidence is present and cited.

6 points-
- The reason is supported with one example only that consists of at least 3 sentences. Evidence is present.

5 points-
- The reason is supported with one example only and at least 2 sentences. Evidence may be cited.

0 points-
- None of the above criteria are met

3 points-
- There are at least 10 examples of language that reflect an opinion, illustrate an awareness of audience, and demonstrate a strength of conviction.

2 points-
- At least 7 examples

1 point-
- At least 5 examples

0 points-
- 3 or fewer uses of the words

0 points-
- 5 or fewer uses of the words

0 points-
- More than 6 uses of the words

4 points-
- Closing paragraph meets the criteria and is exceptionally well written

3 points-
- All criteria is present

2 points-
- All criteria is present; however, the ideas are fragmented or disjointed

1 point-
- Closing paragraph is adequate, but does not meet all the criteria

0 points-
- Closing is missing or very little criteria is present

3 points-
- There are at least 20 varied and appropriate transition words/phrases.

2 points-
- 19-15 transitions

1 point-
- 14-10 transitions

2 points-
- There is an original title, and it is capitalized correctly.

1 point-
- There is no originality to the title &/or not capitalized correctly

0 points-
- Missing; no title given

3 points-
- Meets all guidelines as required

2 points-
- Meets most guidelines as required

1 point-
- Does not meet many

0 points-
- Did not attempt MLA formatting/more than half of the guidelines missing

Total Points Earned: _______________/ 45 points