Writing Grading Criteria

Purpose (20%):
Well-developed thesis
Introduction establishes the major issues, captures the reader's attention
Conclusion reiterates the argument, addresses the thesis, appeals to the reader

Content (20%):
Clear development of each idea
Support for thesis: relevance, strength, credibility.
Clearly explained examples to support the thesis
Facts are correct

Organization (25%):
Strong topic sentences
Focus on topic within paragraph
Clear separation of paragraphs, appropriate paragraph breaks
Points flow logically from paragraph to paragraph and within each paragraph
Arrangement of ideas, coherence, following from the introduction and leading to the conclusion.
Appropriate use of references

Mechanics (25%):
Spelling
Grammar
Punctuation
Syntax, well-constructed, complete sentences
Word choice, vocabulary
Clear and efficient style
Satisfies length requirement
Submitted on time

Overall effectiveness (10%)