# Honors English 3 Research Paper Rubric
100 Points = about 30% of the 3rd MP Grade

|  | Excellent | Good | Average | Poor | Unacceptable |
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| Introduction & Conclusion 5 points | -interesting, sophisticated opening that smoothly transitions into context<br>- thorough, necessary, relevant historical or plot context<br><br>- successfully sums up the major points of the essay<br>- providing reflection that shows a high degree of critical thinking on the topic<br><br>**5 Points** | - interesting opening that relates to context in rest of introduction<br>- adequate amount of historical and plot context given for the thesis<br><br>- effectively sums up the major points of the essay<br>- providing reflection that shows purposeful and clear critical thinking on the topic.<br><br>**4 Points** | - opening introduces general topic but lacks interesting elements<br>- general historical or plot context for thesis<br><br>- adequately sums up the major points of the essay, but may rush through important details<br>- shows some reflection on the topic, but may lack or clarity<br><br>**3 Points** | - confusing opening that doesn't relate to context<br>- little to no historical or plot context given for the thesis<br><br>- does not sum up the major points of the essay<br>- provides incoherent or illogical reflections on the topic<br><br>**2 Points** | - introduction is incomprehensible or utterly fails to present the background and context for the thesis<br><br>- utterly ineffective in providing any kind of logical or coherent summary or reflection on the topic<br><br>**0-1 Point** |
| Thesis 5 points | - sophisticated sentence structure<br>-insightful, analytical argument<br>- clearly outlines structure of paper<br>- smooth transition into last sentence in introduction<br><br>**5 Points** | - somewhat sophisticated sentence structure<br>- analytical argument lacking specificity<br>- outlines structure of paper<br>- transition into last sentence in introduction<br><br>**4 Points** | - simplistic sentence structure<br>- cliche, analytical argument<br>- shows some direction in outlining paper<br>- missing transition into last sentence in introduction<br><br>**3 Points** | - overly simplistic sentence structure<br>- unclear, cliche argument<br>- outlines part of paper structure<br>- misplaced thesis, toward end of introduction<br><br>**2 Points** | - overly simplistic sentence structure that detracts from argument<br>- illogical or missing argument<br>- fails to outline structure of paper<br>- placed in beginning of introduction<br><br>**0-1 Points** |
| Organization & Transitions 10 points | - clearly developed structure where paragraphs build off of one another<br>- effective, sophisticated topic sentences that show argument development<br>- sophisticated transitional techniques<br><br>**9-10 Points** | - developed structure where paragraphs start to build off of one another<br>- clear topic sentences that relate back to thesis but don't clearly build off of preceding paragraphs<br>- smooth transitions<br><br>**8 Points** | - structure is unclear at times and doesn't focus on building off of preceding paragraphs<br>- topic sentences have a clear topic but lack connection to thesis or preceding paragraphs<br>- minor errors with transitions<br><br>**7 Points** | - disorganization of ideas makes argument difficult to understand at times<br>- topic sentence lacks clear topic and connection to thesis<br>- serious errors with transitions, missing at times<br><br>**6 Points** | - disorganized ideas make argument illogical<br>- topic sentences are missing<br>- missing transitions<br><br>**0-5 Points** |

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| Analysis 25 points | - accurate, insightful, and thorough analysis of novel<br>- analysis clearly develops literary criticism arguments | - somewhat accurate and insightful analysis of novel<br>- analysis develops literary criticism arguments | - analysis of novel present but with minor inaccuracies or lacking development<br>- analysis relates to literary criticism arguments but doesn't clearly develop it | - analysis of novel is partial, with major inaccuracies, and doesn't development argument<br>- analysis somewhat relates to literary criticism arguments | - irrelevant, inaccurate, or missing analysis of novel<br>- analysis fails to relate to literary criticism arguments |
| | **23-25 Points** | **20-22 Points** | **17-19 Points** | **15-16 Points** | **0-14 Points** |
| Source Integration 20 points | - source information integrated seamlessly with original writing<br>- accurate, sophisticated use of plot context that also shows source info's purpose within context of the argument | - source information well-integrated with original writing<br>- accurate use of plot context that hints at source info's purpose within context of the argument | - source information generally well-integrated, but with minor errors<br>- incomplete or inaccurate use of plot context | - source information inserted with some attempt to integrate original ideas<br>- inaccurate use of plot context | - source information dominates paper with little original writing<br>- missing plot context |
| | **19-20 Points** | **16-18 Points** | **14-15 Points** | **12-13 Points** | **0-11 Points** |
| Concise, On-Topic Writing 10 points | - all writing supports thesis and flows logically throughout the paper<br>- clear, concise writing that lacks necessary or vague phrases and repetitive ideas | - writing supports thesis and flows logically with minor errors<br>- few, minor errors in clarity or concise writing, showing some unnecessary, vague, or repetitive ideas | - writing relates to thesis and is generally clear and logical with some errors<br>- several, minor errors in clarity or concise writing, showing some unnecessary, vague, or repetitive ideas | - writing does not support thesis and is confusing in places or out of sequence<br>- many, minor errors and some major errors in clarity or concise writing, showing some unnecessary, vague, or repetitive ideas | - writing is unrelated to thesis; consistently confusing or ungrammatical<br>- many major errors in clarity or concise writing, making writing incomprehensible at times |
| | **9-10 Points** | **8 Points** | **7 Points** | **6 Points** | **0-5 Points** |
| MLA Format 5 points | All elements present and no errors in formatting:<br>- heading on 1st page<br>- header with last name and page number<br>- creative title<br>- 1 inch margins<br>- 12 pt font<br>- Times New Roman<br>- spacing<br>- double spaced | All elements present and 1 error in formatting:<br>- heading on 1st page<br>- header with last name and page number<br>- creative title<br>- 1 inch margins<br>- 12 pt font<br>- Times New Roman<br>- spacing<br>- double spaced | Missing 1 element or 2 errors in formatting:<br>- heading on 1st page<br>- header with last name and page number<br>- creative title<br>- 1 inch margins<br>- 12 pt font<br>- Times New Roman<br>- spacing<br>- double spaced | Missing 1+ element or 3 errors in formatting:<br>- heading on 1st page<br>- header with last name and page number<br>- creative title<br>- 1 inch margins<br>- 12 pt font<br>- Times New Roman<br>- spacing<br>- double spaced | Missing 2+ elements or 4+ errors in formatting:<br>- heading on 1st page<br>- header with last name and page number<br>- creative title<br>- 1 inch margins<br>- 12 pt font<br>- Times New Roman<br>- spacing<br>- double spaced |
| | **5 Points** | **4 Points** | **3 Points** | **2 Points** | **0-1 Point** |

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| Works Cited 5 points | No more than 2 minor errors or 1 major error:<br>- reliable sources<br>- 3 literary criticism sources<br>- novel source<br>- all parenthetical citations correspond with a full citation on works cited<br>- all sources listed on works cited are used in paper<br>- properly formatted<br><br>**5 Points** | 3-4 minor errors or 2 major errors:<br>- reliable sources<br>- 3 literary criticism sources<br>- novel source<br>- all parenthetical citations correspond with a full citation on works cited<br>- all sources listed on works cited are used in paper<br>- properly formatted<br><br>**4 Points** | 5-6 minor errors or 3 major errors:<br>- reliable sources<br>- 3 literary criticism sources<br>- novel source<br>- all parenthetical citations correspond with a full citation on works cited<br>- all sources listed on works cited are used in paper<br>- properly formatted<br><br>**3 Points** | 7-8 minor errors or 4 major errors:<br>- reliable sources<br>- 3 literary criticism sources<br>- novel source<br>- all parenthetical citations correspond with a full citation on works cited<br>- all sources listed on works cited are used in paper<br>- properly formatted<br><br>**2 Points** | 9+ minor errors or 5+ major errors:<br>- reliable sources<br>- 3 literary criticism sources<br>- novel source<br>- all parenthetical citations correspond with a full citation on works cited<br>- all sources listed on works cited are used in paper<br>- properly formatted<br><br>**0-1 Point** |
| Citations 5 points | No more than 1 error:<br>- correct format<br>- reliable sources<br>- 4 literary criticism citations<br>- 4 novel citations<br>- sophisticated paraphrases with altered phrasing and structure<br>- quotations used sparing, only when wording and structure is necessary<br><br>**5 Points** | 2 errors:<br>- correct format<br>- reliable sources<br>- 4 literary criticism citations<br>- 4 novel citations<br>- sophisticated paraphrases with altered phrasing and structure<br>- quotations used sparing, only when wording and structure is necessary<br><br>**4 Points** | 3 errors:<br>- correct format<br>- reliable sources<br>- 4 literary criticism citations<br>- 4 novel citations<br>- sophisticated paraphrases with altered phrasing and structure<br>- quotations used sparing, only when wording and structure is necessary<br><br>**3 Points** | 4 errors:<br>- correct format<br>- reliable sources<br>- 4 literary criticism citations<br>- 4 novel citations<br>- sophisticated paraphrases with altered phrasing and structure<br>- quotations used sparing, only when wording and structure is necessary<br><br>**2 Points** | 2 errors:<br>- correct format<br>- reliable sources<br>- 4 literary criticism citations<br>- 4 novel citations<br>- sophisticated paraphrases with altered phrasing and structure<br>- quotations used sparing, only when wording and structure is necessary.<br><br>**0-1 Point** |
| Mechanics 10 points | Nearly flawless grammar and mechanics; 1-2 errors.<br><br>**9-10 Points** | Spell-checked, proofread, 3-4 errors total.<br><br>**8 Points** | Spell-checked, proofread, 5-6 errors including usage.<br><br>**7 Points** | Spell-checked, proofread, 7-8 minor and some major errors.<br><br>**6 Points** | Spell-checked, 9+ minor and some major errors.<br><br>**0-5 Points** |

Name: _____

Total Points: _____ /100