I. Paper Mechanics

	0-5 Points	6 Points	7 Points	8 points	9-10 Points
Spelling and	Grammatical	The author's thesis is	The author's thesis is clearly	The paper contains	The paper is largely
Grammar	errors make	clearly identifiable,	identifiable, and his or her	more than two small	free of spelling and/or
	understanding	and his or her	argument can be followed despite	spelling and/or	grammatical errors.
	the author's	argument can be	grammatical errors	grammatical mistakes.	No more than two
	thesis and/or	followed despite		However, such	small mistakes are
	argument	grammatical errors	However, exactly one of the	mistakes do not detract	present.
	difficult.		following holds:	from ability of the	
		Both:		paper to be understood	
		-The paper contains	-The paper contains grammatical	and/or read without	
	The student	grammatical and/or	and/or spelling that compromise	difficulty.	
	needs to consult	spelling that	clarity and/or create ambiguity.		
	writing tutors	compromise clarity	OR		
	for help with	and/or create	-The paper contains at least three		
	writing	ambiguity.	spelling and/or grammatical		
	mechanics.	AND	issues.		
		-The paper contains			
		at least four spelling			
		and/or grammatical			
		issues.			

	0 Points	1-2 Points	3 Points	4 points	5 Points
Citations and	No citations or	-The paper contains	-The paper contains at	-The paper contains at	- All controversial interpretative
Quotations	quotations	three or more errors	least two errors with	least one error with	claims are supported by
	present.	with respect to the	respect to the criteria	respect to the criteria	quotations.
		criteria outlined in the	outlined in the "5	outlined in the "5	-All quotations contain citations to
		"5 point" column.	point" column.	point" column.	appropriate page numbers within
					the text.
					-Paraphrased sections of the text
					are cited (you may cite the page
					numbers at the end of a
					paragraph).
					-A reference section is present that
					indicates all secondary literature
					that was consulted (if any).
					-Quotations are not used to bolster
					uncontroversial interpretative
					claims.
					- If quotations are long, if they
					contain archaic language, or if
					they contain technical
					philosophical terms, then they are
					explained in the student's own
					words.

	0-8 Points	9-10 Points	11-12 Points	13 points	14-15 points
Opening	The opening	All of the following:	A thesis statement is	A thesis statement is present.	-Clearly outlines of
Paragraph	paragraph	- No thesis is present	present.	AND	contents of the reminder
	could be	-The outline of the	AND	One of the following:	of the paper.
	deleted without	paper is missing.	Two of the following:	-The outline is unclear, or	-Contains a thesis
	compromising	-There is no relevant	-The outline of the	-Background provided is either	statement.
	the quality of	background	paper is missing.	vague/overly- general, or	-Briefly explains
	the paper.	information that	-The background is	insufficient to provide context	necessary background to
		helps one understand	inappropriately vague	for the thesis.	understand the paper.
		the argument of the	to provide context for	-The opening paragraph	-Nothing other than a
		paper.	the thesis.	contains information other	thesis, outline of the
			-The opening paragraph	than an outline of the paper	paper, and a brief
			contains other	and a brief explanation of the	explanation of the
			unnecessary elements.	intellectual background.	intellectual background
					is present.

S		0-1 Points	2-4 Points	5-6 Points	7-8 points	9-10 Points
	Style	The paper is very	Exactly four	Exactly three	Exactly two sentences	- Sentences are concise.
		difficult to read	sentences fail to	sentences fail to	fail to satisfy the	- Sentence structure is varied.
		in virtue of	satisfy the	satisfy the	criteria in the "10	- No unnecessary adverbs or adjectives
		excessively long	criteria in the	criteria in the	points" column.	are present.
		sentences,	"10 points"	"10 points"		-Abstract concepts are explained using
		inappropriate	column.	column.		concrete examples.
		word choice, and				-Metaphors are always restated in non-
		unnecessary				metaphorical language.
		abstraction.				

	0-2 Points	3-4 Points	5-6 Points	7-8 Points	9-10 points
Defining terms and word choice	Both of the following obtains: -Two or more central philosophical terms are undefined or unexplained Two or more errors concerning non-philosophical word choice.	At least one of the following obtains: -Two or more central philosophical terms are undefined or unexplained. -Two or more errors concerning nonphilosophical word choice.	Both of the following obtain: -One central philosophical term is undefinedExactly two errors concerning nonphilosophical word choice.	Exactly one of the following obtains: -One central philosophical term is undefined or is defined incorrectlyExactly two errors concerning nonphilosophical word choice.	-All technical philosophical terminology is correctly defined or explained in everyday English. -Examples are used to illustrate philosophical concepts. -Non-philosophical terms are used correctly and precisely throughout the paper. -The same word is used to denote the same concept throughout the paper (i.e., writer does not use a thesaurus needlessly).

II. Paper Substance

	0-14 Points	15-17 Points	18-19 Points	20-22 Points	23-25 Points
Argument	Several	All of the following:	-The author's conclusion	-The author's premises are	-The author's premises are
Reconstruction	errors of the		is stated clearly.	stated clearly, with perhaps	dentified stated clearly.
	types	-One of the author's	-One or more of the	one small error.	
	enumerated	premises and/or	author's premises is not		-The author's conclusion is stated
	in the	conclusions are not	identified or stated	-The author's conclusion is	clearly.
	column to	clearly identified or	clearly.	stated clearly.	
	the right.	stated.			-The paper identifies implicit
		-The paper fails to	AND	-The paper does not contain	premises necessary to render
		identify obvious		any paragraphs irrelevant to	argument valid or at least
		implicit premises	Any of the following:	the prompt.	inductively strong.
		necessary to render	-The paper fails to		
		the argument valid or	identify obvious implicit	Any of the following errors:	-The paper distinguishes implicit
		inductively strong.	premises necessary to		from explicit premises.
		-The paper fails to	render the argument valid	-The paper fails to identify	
		explains how various	or strong.	obvious implicit premises	-The paper explains how various
		claims in the		necessary to render the	claims in the argument follow
		argument follow	-The paper fails to	argument valid or inductively	from one another, thereby
		from one another.	explain how various	strong.	terminating in the conclusion.
			claims in the argument	-The paper distinguishes	
			follow from one another.	implicit from explicit	-The paper does not contain any
				premises,	paragraphs irrelevant to the
			-The paper contains at	-The paper explains how	prompt. In particular, the
			least one paragraph	various claims in the argument	author's argument is not
			irrelevant to the prompt.	follow from one another.	criticized or defended.
					The student distinguishes his
					-The student distinguishes his or
					her own ideas and theses from
					those of the author.

	0-14 Points	15-17 Points	18-19 Points	20-22 Points	23-25 Points
Objection	The argument is	<i>Both</i> of the following:	<i>Both</i> of the following:	At least one of the	-The paper explains
	incoherent or			following errors:	whether the objection
	irrelevant.				questions the validity of
		-The paper does not state	-The paper does not	-The paper does not	an inference or the truth of
		whether the objection	state whether the	state whether the	one of the premises of the
		questions the validity of	objection questions the	objection questions the	reconstructed argument.
		an inference or the truth	validity of an inference	validity of an inference	
		of one of the premises of	or the truth of one of the	or the truth of one of	-Premises of the
		the reconstructed	premises of the	the premises of the	objection identified stated
		argument.	reconstructed argument.	reconstructed	clearly.
				argument.	
		AND	AND		-The conclusion of the
			_	-At least one error with	objection is stated clearly.
		-Several errors with	-No more than one error	respect to the	
		respect to the remaining	with respect to the	remaining criteria in	-The objection is valid or
		criteria in the rightmost	remaining criteria in the	the rightmost column.	at least inductively strong.
		column	rightmost column.		
					-The paper explains how
					various claims in the
					objection follow from one
					another, thereby
					terminating in the
					conclusion.