Paragraph - Main idea / Topic sentence	Main/Topic idea sentence is clear, correctly placed, and is restated in the closing sentence.  3 points	Main/Topic idea sentence is fairly clear, correctly placed, and is restated in the closing sentence.  2 points	Main/Topic idea sentence is unclear and/or incorrectly placed, and might not be restated in the closing sentence.  1 points	Does not have a meaningful topic sentence <i>o points</i>
Paragraph - Supporting detail	Paragraph(s) have three or more supporting detail sentences that relate back to the main idea.  3 points	Paragraph(s) have two or three supporting detail sentences that relate back to the main idea. 2 points	Paragraph(s) have one or two supporting detail sentences that relate back to the main idea.  1 points	Does not provide supporting detail <i>O points</i>
Paragraph - Elaborating detail	Each supporting detail sentence has two or more elaborating detail sentences.  3 points	Each supporting detail sentence has at least two elaborating detail sentences.  2 points	Each supporting detail sentence has one elaborating detail sentence.  1 points	Does not provide elaborating detail <b>0</b> points
Paragraph - Mechanics and Grammar	Paragraph has no errors in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.  3 points	Paragraph has one or two punctuation, capitalization, and spelling errors.  2 points	Paragraph has three to five punctuation, capitalization, and spelling errors.  1 points	Mechanics and grammar is unacceptable.  O points