

Scoring Rubric for Question 2: Rhetorical Analysis 6 points

	0 points for any of the following:	1 point
Thesis (0-1 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no defensible thesis. • The intended thesis only restates the prompt. • The intended thesis provides a summary of the issue with no apparent or coherent claim. • There is a thesis, but it does not respond to the prompt 	Responds to the prompt with a defensible thesis that analyzes the writer’s rhetorical choices.

	0 points	1 point	2 points	3 points	4 points
Evidence AND Commentary (0-4 points)	<p>Simply restates thesis (if present).</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Repeats provided information.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Provides examples that are generally irrelevant and/or incoherent.</p>	<p>Summarizes the text without reference to a thesis.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Provides non-specific references to the text.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Provides references to the text that are vaguely relevant.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Provides little or no commentary.</p>	<p>Makes textual references (direct quotes or paraphrases) that are relevant to the thesis.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Provides commentary; however, it repeats, oversimplifies, or misinterprets the cited information or evidence.</p>	<p>Makes textual references (direct quotes or paraphrases) that are relevant to the thesis.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Provides commentary that explains the relationship between evidence and the thesis; however, commentary is uneven, limited, or incomplete.</p>	<p>Makes textual references (direct quotes or paraphrases) that are relevant to the thesis.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Provides well-developed commentary that consistently and explicitly explains the relationship between the evidence and the thesis.</p>

	0 points	1 point
Sophistication (0-1 points)	Does not meet the criteria for 1 point.	Demonstrates sophistication of thought and/or a complex understanding of the rhetorical situation.

