Name: Period

Making Connections Essay Rubric

**Development & Organization**

4: Your essay masterfully establishes and develops your topic by maintaining a clear, logical flow of ideas through paragraphing and transitioning. Your introduction and conclusion support your composition and enhance the formation of your argument.

3: Your essay establishes and develops your topic by maintaining a clear, logical flow of ideas through paragraphing and transitioning. Your introduction and conclusion support your composition. Any errors or inconsistencies in paragraphing or organization are minimal and have little or no impact on your reader’s comprehension of your points. Your introduction and conclusion support your composition.

2: Your essay establishes and develops a flow of ideas through paragraphing. However, this flow may not always be clear to the reader and may disrupt his/her understanding of your ideas. There may be errors in paragraphing, organization or transitioning that impacts your reader’s comprehension and weaken your arguments. Your introduction and conclusion support your argument but may be ineffective.

1: Your essay does not develop a clear flow of ideas. Paragraphs lack a clear focus and/or fail to establish and develop your argument as hole. Transitioning (if used at all) may fail to help your reader connect ideas. You may be missing an introduction or a conclusion or they me ineffective in establishing/reinforcing your argument.

**Argument**

4: You insightfully identify connections in the stories and you express insight into this theme by choosing and citing evidence (direct quotes) that accurately and profoundly demonstrates your understanding of theme and how it applies to the text itself.

3: You correctly identify connections in the stories and you express insight into this theme by choosing and citing evidence (direct quotes) that accurately demonstrates your understanding of theme and how it applies to the text itself.

2: You identify connections in the stories, but you may have misinterpreted or fail to express understanding of these connections. You use evidence, but this evidence may not be direct quotes, and/or may not help to demonstrate your understanding of theme and/or the text.

1: You do not correctly identify connections in the texts and/or your fail to use adequate evidence from the text to support your claims. Your argument is not developed adequately enough to prove your point.

**Style and Language**

4: You create and maintain a consistent formal style by maintaining an objective voice and avoiding slang and contractions. Your writing has no (or almost no) errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation.

3: You create and maintain a consistent formal style by maintaining an objective voice and avoiding slang and contractions. Your writing has a few errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation, but they do not interfere with your reader’s comprehension.

2: You create a consistent formal style in work, but you may have some errors objectivity, slang, and/or contradictions. You may also have some errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation and these may interfere with your reader’s comprehension.

1: You have many errors in style and/or language and these limit your reader’s ability to understand your work.