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| CATEGORY | **4 - Above Standards** | **3 - Meets Standards** | **2 - Approaching Standards** | **1 - Below Standards** | **Score** |
| **Attention Grabber** | The introductory paragraph has a strong hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience. This could be a strong statement, a relevant quotation, statistic, or question addressed to the reader. | The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber, but it is weak, rambling or inappropriate for the audience. | The author has an interesting introductory paragraph but the connection to the topic is not clear. | The introductory paragraph is not interesting AND is not relevant to the topic. |  |
| **Support for Position** | Includes 3 or more details from the novel in their description. | Includes 2 details from the novel in their description. | Includes 1 detail from the novel in their description. | Includes no details from the novel. |  |
| **Audience** | Demonstrates a clear understanding of the potential reader and uses appropriate vocabulary and arguments. Anticipates reader's questions and provides thorough answers appropriate for that audience. | Demonstrates a general understanding of the potential reader and uses vocabulary and arguments appropriate for that audience. | Demonstrates some understanding of the potential reader and uses arguments appropriate for that audience. | It is not clear who the author is writing for. |  |
| **Grammar & Spelling** | Author makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Author makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Author makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Author makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. |  |
| **Capitalization & Punctuation** | Author makes no errors in capitalization or punctuation, so the essay is exceptionally easy to read. | Author makes 1-2 errors in capitalization or punctuation, but the essay is still easy to read. | Author makes a few errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that catch the reader's attention and interrupt the flow. | Author makes several errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that catch the reader's attention and interrupt the flow. |  |

**Short Essay Prompt: DUE FEBRUARY 6/7**   
Students will write a Real Estate Listing: “Gatsby uses his mansion in order to create an illusion about himself—the illusion that he lives a fun-filled life as a member of high society. Assume that you are a real estate broker trying to sell Jay Gatsby’s extravagant mansion. Write a vivid description of his property to create this same illusion for prospective buyers—that is, that wealth and extravagance automatically mean happiness and success. Use at least 3 details from the novel in your description.”  
Paper Length: 2 Pages... This will be the first composition grade you will have received from me. It is weighted more heavily than your daily grades. Be sure to use correct grammar and punctuation.