"TED and Beyond" Rubric for the Research Paper

	Outstanding	Good	Fair	Unacceptable
Gateway Skills ____/10	All sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes no errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling. APA Format is followed correctly and consistently throughout.	Most sentences are Well-constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes a few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling, but they do not interfere with understanding. APA Format is followed fairly consistently throughout.	Most sentences are well constructed, but they have a similar structure and/or length. The author makes several errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding. APA Format is followed incorrectly and inconsistently throughout.	There are too many errors that interfere with understanding. This results in a no-grade. Please correct and resubmit. APA Format is not followed correctly or consistently throughout.
Word Choice ____/10	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words seems accurate, natural, and not forced.	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words is inaccurate at times and/or seems overdone.	The author uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety.	The writer uses a limited vocabulary. Slang or clichés may be present and detract from the meaning.
Structure ____/30	Thesis is clear, easy to find, and appropriate to the assignment. **Thesis is supported by the rest of the paper. Research question fully answered.** Paper contains a "roadmap" for the reader. **There is a logical flow to the topics/arguments.** Conclusion follows clearly from the arguments presented.	Thesis is clear and appropriate. **Thesis fairly well supported. Research question fairly answered.** Paper is fairly well organized. Conclusion follows from the rest of the paper.	Thesis is fairly clear. **Inconsistent support for thesis. Research question inadequately answered.** Paper weakly organized. Conclusion is acceptable.	Thesis unclear and/or inappropriate. **Thesis not supported. Many questions remain.** Paper is not organized. Conclusion doesn't follow from the rest of the paper.
Research ____/30	The evidence comes from a wide and balanced variety of valid sources. Uses more than two sources per section. The bibliography is complete and reflects appropriate sources. The evidence used reflects multiple views.	The evidence comes from valid sources. Uses about two sources per section. The bibliography is complete. The evidence used reflects multiple views.	Valid sources are inconsistently used. Inconsistent use of sources. The bibliography is missing some pieces.	The evidence seldom comes from valid sources. Uses very few sources throughout. The bibliography is missing significant information.
Analysis and Thinking ____/30	Arguments are pertinent to the topic. **Arguments are logical, supported with complex evidence and analysis**. The key arguments have been made – no major points have been left out.	Arguments are pertinent to the topic. **Arguments are fairly logical and reasonably supported.** Most key arguments have been made.	**Arguments are not consistently pertinent, logical, or supported.** Few key arguments have been made.	Arguments not pertinent. **Arguments rarely, if at all, logical and supported.** Almost no key arguments have been made.
Interest factor ____/10	Language and style appropriate for intended audience. Paper presents well-developed analysis and synthesis. There is nuance, inference and subtlety to the paper. Main points are memorable. Reader is very engaged.	Language and style appropriate. Paper presents reasonable analysis and synthesis. There is a little nuance, inference and subtlety. Main points clear. Reader is engaged.	Language and style only fair. Less-developed analysis and synthesis. Nuance, inference and subtlety lacking. Main points present, not well made.	Language and style poor. Analysis and synthesis lacking. Main points not discernable.

Comments: **Total: _____/120**