

Creative Short Paper Rubric

	Accomplished (5)	Competent (4)	Developing (3)	Beginning (2)
Focus	Conveys a convincing and innovative connection between the two texts. Sustains this controlling idea throughout the piece of writing.	Conveys a connection between the two texts, but it may not be particularly original. Mostly maintains focus on this idea, although it may sometimes stray.	Connection between texts remains vague and undeveloped.	No central focus, or does not compare two texts. Little or no coherence to the piece.
Development	Skillfully references or alludes to passages from literature. Imaginative engagement with the two texts through form and content.	Attempts to incorporate or allude to passages from literary texts, but may not always be easily identifiable. Imaginative engagement with the two texts through form and/or content.	Rarely provides specific allusion to passages from literary texts. Creative form but content might simply repeat class discussion.	Uses irrelevant or little from original literary texts. Alternatively, might rely too heavily on plot summary or use too much from the literary texts, leaving little room for personal creativity.
Organization/Form	Demonstrates knowledge of genre conventions, and may defy them for creative purposes.	Employs appropriate genre conventions.	Employs reasonable organization or form based on chosen genre, but chosen genre seems inappropriate or inadequate.	Does not seem to be aware of genre conventions or think deliberately about form.
Mechanics	Uses graceful language that skillfully communicates meaning to readers with clarity and fluency, and is virtually error-free. Response is more than 500 words.	Uses straightforward language that generally conveys meaning to readers. The language has few errors. Response is at least 500 words.	Uses language that generally conveys meaning with clarity, although writing may include some errors. Response is at least 400 words.	Uses language that sometimes impedes meaning because of errors in usage. Response is less than 400 words.