The Essay

**Investigating**

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| **Achievement level** | **Level descriptor** |
| 0 | The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below. |
| 1–2 | The student:   * collects and records **limited** information not always consistent with your chosen topic * **makes a limited attempt** to address your chosen topic |
| 3–4 | The student:   * uses a method or methods to collect and record **some** information consistent with your chosen topic * **partially** addresses your chosen topic |
| 5–6 | The student:   * uses methods to collect and record **appropriate** information consistent with your chosen topic * **satisfactorily** addresses your chosen topic |
| 7–8 | The student:   * uses methods **accurately** to collect and record **appropriate** and **varied** information consistent with your chosen topic * **effectively** addresses your chosen topic |

**Communicating**

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| **Achievement level** | **Level descriptor** |
| 0 | The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below. |
| 1–2 | The student:   * communicates information and ideas by **attempting in a limited way** to write an essay (structure unclear, points irrelevant to topic). * **makes a limited attempt** to document sources of information – works cited? What works cited? |
| 3–4 | The student:   * creates an essay that is **sometimes** appropriate to the chosen topic & is structured in a **somewhat** coherent fashion * **sometimes** documents sources of information using a recognized convention (You just wanted urls, right?). |
| 5–6 | The student:   * creates an essay that is **often** appropriate to the chosen topic & is structured in a coherent fashion * **often** documents sources of information using a recognized convention (your works cited is almost perfect…some errors still). |
| 7–8 | The student:   * creates an essay that **effectively** highlights the chosen topic in a **consistent, appropriate** and coherent way. * **consistently** documents sources of information using a recognized convention (your works cited is in MLA style and is flawless)y is almost perfect...t is evident you really know your stuff!)ur paper or visual)for peasants, but ddint'comm. |