Peanuts Paper

Please note that this rubric is holistic, not mathematical. It's designed to give you an at-a-glance sense of how you did. Items marked (x2) weigh more heavily in my mind.

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	WEAK	UNACCEPTABLE
APPROPRIATENESS OF SCOPE	The author has chosen a topic that fits well within the page requirements.	The author has chosen a topic that could work, but it's not executed in a particularly strong way.	The author either chose a topic that was too big or that was far too narrow.	The author has either failed to identify a topic or has completely missed the mark in its appropriateness of scope.
THESIS PRESENTS AN ARGUMENT	The author makes an argument with which a reasonable person could agree and articulates it clearly.	The author makes an argument but does not articulate it effectively.	The author's argument is weak or unclear.	The author presents a topic rather than an argument.
USE OF EVIDENCE (X2)	The author effectively uses evidence from at least two volumes of *Peanuts and* with specific strips. The evidence is carefully explicated to the reader who can follow the argument without difficulty. The evidence used is surprising and insightful. Quotations are integrated smoothly.	The author provides evidence from the strips most of the time. There may be a few gaps where the import of that evidence is less clear to the reader. Alternatively, the author might not make it clear exactly how the evidence connects to the argument without the reader making a few mental leaps.	The author does not provide enough evidence to support the interpretations s/he reaches. The evidence, where it exists, does not clearly connect to the points the author is making. Descriptions of the strip are either lacking or have far too many details. Quotations are left to stand on their own.	The author rarely provides evidence or there are numerous factual mistakes or omissions. The reader is left to their own devices to understand how the evidence connects to the broader argument.
ORGANIZATION (X2)	The essay is well written and organized on micro- and macro-levels. There is wit and élan or at least consistency of tone. There are no grammatical, spelling, or semantic errors. MLA style has been observed.	The essay has a few errors or clunky sentences. Organization is generally good. The tone may be inconsistent. There are some mistakes in MLA style.	Errors and clunky sentences interfere with the reading of the paper. The tone is flat or uninspired. The author struggles with the organization of the individual sections. Frequent citation style errors appear.	There are numerous mistakes throughout the essay that render the author's meaning unclear and the whole nearly impossible to follow. The paper is a chore to read, unpleasant and boring. The author ignores MLA citation altogether.

Name: **Letter Grade:**

Comments: