

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Junior Research Paper Rubric

## MLA formatting:

- \_\_\_\_\_/8 **Heading**
- \_\_\_\_\_/4 **Header**
- \_\_\_\_\_/4 **Title**
- \_\_\_\_\_/4 **Indented and double spaced paragraphs**

### HIGHLIGHT THE FOLLOWING:

- Thesis statement
- Every topic sentence
- Every closing sentence in your body paragraphs
- Thesis restated

## GRAMMAR/STYLE/UNITY/COHERENCE/WORD CHOICE/ETC:

- \_\_\_\_\_/10 **Verbs** [minimized “be” verbs, linking verbs, and passive voice  
Focused on active voice & strong action verbs]
- \_\_\_\_\_/10 **Word Choice** [concise wording; chose descriptive words rather than vague words  
like “do,” “stuff,” “thing”; correct words]
- \_\_\_\_\_/10 **Agreement** [subject/verb; pronoun/antecedent]
- \_\_\_\_\_/10 **Unity/Coherence/Flow/Transitions** [content makes sense, is in order  
with appropriate transitional words & phrases]
- \_\_\_\_\_/10 **Sentences** [properly punctuated & complete, parallel structure, etc]

## CONTENT:

- \_\_\_\_\_/10 **Introductory Paragraph**  
[4 sentence minimum, hook, broad to narrow focus (5),  
ends with thesis(5)]
- \_\_\_\_\_/10 **Closing Paragraph**  
[4 sentence minimum, narrow to broad focus, memorable finish (5),  
begins with thesis restated (5)]
- \_\_\_\_\_/50 **Body paragraphs/Content/In Text Citations**  
[Thesis statement connects to each body paragraph topic sentence (10);  
The topic sentences are fully supported in the paragraphs with evidence,  
examples, citations, etc. (30) The paragraphs end with a clear closing/transition  
sentence (10)]

## WORKS CITED:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| _____/3 <b>Three newspaper articles</b>       | _____/ 4 <b>Four literary sources</b>   |
| _____/3 <b>Three articles (from journals)</b> | _____/ 3 <b>Other sources to back yourself up<br/>(more articles, more books)</b> |
| _____/2 <b>Interview</b>                      | _____/3 <b>Titled properly</b>  |
|   | _____/7 <b>Format, spacing, entries themselves<br/>are correct</b>                |