

### Ineffective Counsel Essay Rubric

Criteria	4 - Exceeds Mastery	3 - Mastered	2 - Almost Mastered	1 - Not Used / Below Standard
<b>Content / Evidence</b>	Provides thorough, accurate, and detailed discussion of the importance of legal counsel; uses multiple relevant and credible examples and evidence to support claims.	Provides clear and accurate discussion with relevant examples and evidence supporting the need for legal counsel.	Provides some discussion with limited examples or evidence; may lack depth or clarity in parts.	Provides minimal or inaccurate information; lacks relevant examples or supporting evidence.
<b>Thesis (Addresses the Question)</b>	Presents a clear, insightful, and well-defined thesis directly addressing the prompt; thesis guides the entire essay.	Presents a clear and focused thesis that addresses the prompt effectively.	Thesis is present but may be vague, partially unclear, or only somewhat addresses the prompt.	Thesis is missing, unclear, or does not address the prompt.
<b>Argument- Is it Convincing?</b>	Argument is highly persuasive, logically developed, and consistently supported by strong reasoning and evidence throughout the essay.	Argument is logical and generally convincing with appropriate reasoning and evidence.	Argument shows some logic but is inconsistently supported or lacks full persuasiveness.	Argument is unclear, illogical, or unsupported by reasoning or evidence.
<b>Structure</b>	Essay is excellently organized with a logical progression of ideas; paragraphs are well-developed and transitions are smooth and effective.	Essay is well-organized with clear paragraphing and appropriate transitions supporting flow.	Organization is apparent but may be uneven; some paragraphs or transitions may be weak.	Essay lacks clear organization; paragraphs and transitions are missing or confusing.

*Teachers should review student essays closely to ensure rubric criteria are applied appropriately and consistently.*