Writing Assessment Checklist for Beginning of Semester Writing Sample

This writing sample provides evidence that the student has the ability to:

Ideas
- Identify a topic appropriate to the prompt
- Think analytically about the significance of an object
- Generate supporting content sufficient for a main proposition
- Appeal to an imagined audience

Rhetorical Control
- Craft an effective opening
- Use transitional expressions and logical thinking to make a text flow
- Express ideas clearly
- Organize a short piece of writing such that it has direction (e.g., not just a list)
- Bring a piece of writing to a conclusion

Language Use
- Use effective and varying adjectives to describe
- Employ appropriate levels of sentence complexity
- Self-edit writing for standard usage
- Use punctuation to regulate reading