<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Description of highest level of performance</th>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Possible points</th>
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</table>
| **Title & Introduction** | 1. Original title is provided  
2. Uses an effective introduction strategy that includes a brief introduction to the author and story  
3. Intro transitions smoothly into the thesis.  
4. Thesis statement is clear and asserts how the author’s life may have influenced or inspired specific topics in his/her short story. It covers all points within. |               | 50              |
| **Body Paragraphs**  | 1. Each contains a clear, appropriate topic sentence that focuses the paragraph.  
2. Each makes its own point that is connected to (and helps to prove) the thesis of the essay.  
3. Ideas are fresh, mature, and extensively developed.  
4. Each contains evidence, including some quotes, that logically and convincingly supports the point presented (no more than 20%)  
5. All quotes contain a clear set-up and logical explanation as to why/how each quote supports the point  
6. Each is cleanly wrapped up with a sentence that logically ends the paragraph  
7. Transitions guide the reader smoothly between paragraphs and ideas.  
8. Paragraphs are logically organized  
9. Paragraphs fit the assignment |               | 90              |
| **Conclusion**      | 1. Logically ends the essay |               | 40              |
| **Format and MLA**  | 1. Uses correct MLA formatting  
2. Uses correct in-text citations  
3. Uses correct summary, paraphrase, and quote integration  
4. Works Cited page is perfect  
5. Uses the correct number and types of sources |               | 70              |
| **Language Use**    | 1. Demonstrates controlled, thoughtful language  
2. Avoids 1st and 2nd person  
3. Literature is referred to in present tense  
4. Characters and authors are referred to according to literary standards  
5. Uses correct grammar and punctuation  
6. No typographical errors |               | 50              |
| **Total Points**    |                                                                                                           |               | 300             |