	Base	Better	Best
Organization	 Establishes general thesis Includes basic ideas to elaborate on the thesis 	 Introduces and elaborates on ideas Makes connections between ideas and the thesis Sets ideas into separate paragraphs 	 Engaging introduction that answers the prompt Smooth transitions between ideas and paragraphs Follows any order laid out in the basic answer of the prompt
Content	• Answers all questions in the provided prompt	 Explains what author plans to do with chosen major Elaborates on basic thesis Connects supporting ideas back to the thesis 	 Includes accounts of relevant experiences Provides specific and concrete examples of author's plans for the future Makes connections between experiences, plans, and current studies
Mechanics	 Meets the required word count Uses words correctly Conveys ideas coherently Uses proper punctuation 	 Conveys specific ideas Uses proper grammar 	 Demonstrates excellent use of language Complex and varied sentence structure Consistent professional tone Free of punctuation and grammatical errors