**Why News Matters Short Answer Rubric (9 points total)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **3 points** | **2 points** | **1 point** | **Total** |
| **Argument** | The student expresses a clear position on how this quote describes the role of journalism today. Their response is well-worded and demonstrates a thoughtful understanding of what James Madison intended. | The student’s position is clear but demonstrates only a surface-level understanding of what the quote and how it applies to journalism.. | The student’s position is unclear, and the student fails to demonstrate any understanding of the quote’s meaning or application to journalism.  |  |
| **Examples** | The student gives 2-3 examples from current local or national news events that support their position. | The student gives only 1 example from current local or national news events that support their position. | The student gives no examples from current local or national news events that support their position. |  |
| **Clarity/Grammar** | Writing is clear, concise, and flows well. Zero to two errors in grammar or punctuation. | Writing is understandable but lacks coherent organization. Three to four errors in grammar or punctuation. | Writing is unclear, lacks logical flow and structure, and has no organization of thoughts. More than four errors in grammar or punctuation. |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  | \_\_/ 9 |