Name: Date:	Class:
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Fission vs. Fusion Mini-Position Paper Rubric

	Level 1 The student:	Level 2 The student:	Level 3 The student:	Level 4 The student:	
Knowledge and Understanding					
Understanding of science concepts (i.e. the characteristics of nuclear fission and fusion and the differences between the two processes)	Demonstrates limited understanding of the characteristics of fission and fusion	Demonstrates some understanding of the characteristics of fission and fusion	Demonstrates considerable understanding of the characteristics of fission and fusion	Demonstrates thorough understanding of the characteristics of fission and fusion	
Thinking and Investigation					
Use of critical/creative thinking processes, skills and strategies (i.e. constructs an argument for the distribution of funds)	Uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills and strategies with limited effectiveness	Uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills and strategies with some effectiveness	Uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills and strategies with considerable effectiveness	Uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills and strategies with a high degree of effectiveness	
Communication					
Expression and organization of ideas and information (i.e. clearly expresses and organizes ideas and information from various electronic sources)	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with limited effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with some effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with considerable effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and information with a high degree of effectiveness	
Use of appropriate evidence and examples (i.e. evidence is specific and relevant and supports the position taken)	Uses evidence and examples with limited effectiveness	Uses evidence and examples with some effectiveness	Uses evidence and examples with considerable effectiveness	Uses evidence and examples with a high degree of effectiveness	
Application					
Making connections between science, technology and society (i.e. assesses the implications of nuclear fission and fusion as potential energy sources)	Makes connections with limited effectiveness	Makes connections with some effectiveness	Makes connections with considerable effectiveness	Makes connections with a high degree of effectiveness	