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| Criteria | Rating | | | |
| Quality  of Post | **Mastery:**  35 points  Student submits a post that demonstrates a thorough understanding of relevant concepts and correlates to course material. All components of the discussion prompt are addressed. | **Effective:**  30 points    Student submits a post that demonstrates general comprehension of relevant concepts and correlates to course material. All components of the discussion prompt are addressed. | **Minimal:**  20 points    Student submits a post that reflects little evidence of general comprehension of course concepts. | **Unsatisfactory:**  0 points    Student does not post, or the answer does not reflect evidence of comprehension of course concepts. There is no evidence of quality in the post. |
| Responses to Peers | **Mastery:**  30 points    Responses to several peers are well developed and relevant. Multiple points from peers are clearly built upon/refuted in postings. | **Effective:**  25 points    Responses to several peers offer some analysis but may need to offer additional information.  At least one point from multiple peers was clearly built upon/refuted in postings. | **Minimal:**  15 points    Student responds to only one or more points, from one or more peers and vaguely builds upon/refutes in postings. | **Unsatisfactory:**  0 points    Student does not respond to posts. No evidence that any other postings have been read. |
| Timeliness and Frequency of Engagement | **Mastery:**  20 points    Student submits initial post on time and is active on the discussion board at least three days out of the week. | **Effective:**  15 points    Student submits initial post on time and is active on the discussion board at least two days out of the week. | **Minimal:**  10 points    Student submits initial post late and is active on the discussion board 1 day out of the week. | **Unsatisfactory:**  0 points    Student does not post by the module end date. |
| Writing Mechanics | **Mastery:**  15 points    Writing is clear with no grammatical errors and maintains an academic structure; adheres to APA or MLA format for citations and references. | **Effective:**  10 points    Writing may need some improvement; some sentences are confusing or contain a few grammatical errors. Some small errors in MLA or APA documentation may be present. | **Minimal:**  5 points  Writing may contain a moderate number of grammatical errors and/or lack clarity. APA or MLA documentation may have been minimally attempted. There are no examples of overt plagiarism. | **Unsatisfactory:**  0 points    Writing may be plagiarized (ex: citations, quotation marks, and/or reference entries are missing where they are needed). Writing may contain an unacceptable pattern of sentence-level errors with or without plagiarism, and it may lack an academic structure. |

## **Discussion**

The discussion forum allows you to share what you learned while interacting with classmates by responding to their posts related to the topic of discussion. The participatory role you play in the online discussions will assist you in understanding the course content, connecting with your classmates, and developing an understanding of the topics. You should always avoid using simple sentences in responses such as “I agree” or “I like what you wrote.”

## **Discussion Sample**

### Instructor/Prompt:

### In this week’s module we learned about several vacation destinations. Choose one vacation destination to write about. Describe the features that make it a great spot to vacation. Be sure to include details that might entice readers to travel to your selected destination.

### Student Initial Post to Prompt:

*John*: For those who are looking to experience an enchanted vacation, Disney World is the ultimate destination. Located in Orlando, FL, the park is currently celebrating its 50th anniversary (Bricker, 2022). Planning guides like the one that I found from mousehacking.com (2022) will direct you to new rides being debuted for the anniversary celebration, including Remy’s Ratatouille Adventure in Epcot.

Disney parks are clean and safe, which enables you to relax and enjoy your vacation. From Epcot, where you can scratch your itch for global travel, to the Animal Kingdom, from Hollywood Studios to the Magic Kingdom, Disney World is your ticket to any adventure you choose.

Works Cited (MLA format) or References (APA format):

Bricker, T. Guide to Disney World 50th Anniversary Celebration: New Rides, Fireworks,

Shows. Disney Tourist Blog. Retrieved June 6, 2022, from https://www.disneytouristblog.com/disney-world-50th-anniversary-new-castle-decor-character-costumes-projection-effects/.

Walt Disney World History. WDWMagic.com. Retrieved June 6, 2022, from

https://www.wdwmagic.com/walt-disney-world-history.htm

Walt Disney World Planning Guide (2022 & 2023). January 4, 2022. Mouse Hacking.

Retrieved June 6, 2022, from <https://www.mousehacking.com/blog/walt-disney->world-planning-guide

### **Replies:**

Effective discussion responses follow the **ABCs: Acknowledge/Build/Conclude**:

*Jim*: Hi John. When you mentioned that Disney Parks (like Epcot) can satisfy the travel itch, it made me realize that it is a more affordable and reasonable trip [A]. When I visited Epcot as a teenager, the park restaurants were my introduction to many country cuisines. Maybe that is why I have the travel bug today! It’s a small world, after all! [B]

Have any other members of the class been to Disney? If so, what was your best memorable experience? Touring the countries in Epcot made me realize how much I would like to travel in the future. [C]

*Jane*: Hello Jim. I have been to Disney World a few times and I find it to be quite the getaway. [A] Did you know that while you are traveling the world in Epcot, you can also get souvenirs around the world? Also, Disney has six five-star spas for anyone looking to be pampered a bit! [B] Wouldn't you agree? Can you think of another place that offers all these options in one magical spot? Disney is a one stop destination for culture, cuisine, and souvenirs. [C]