CATEGORY	CRITERIA	POINTS POSSIBLE
Make Me Care	It has uncertainty and serious stakes that create tension.	/20
	 It contains a lot of specific details and imagery. 	
	It uses almost all indirect characterization.	
	The words are carefully chosen and emotional.	
	 You feel like you know the author; it has minimal cliché usage. 	
Story Arc	 The setting grabs the reader and makes a promise that this will be worth his/her/their time; it contains interesting questions. 	/10
	You have a clear problem that builds to a climax; the climax has tension and is some of your best writing.	
	The resolution ties up all the loose ends; if no resolution is present, there is a good reason for it.	
Grammar	Your commas are used right.	/10
	You use advanced grammatical techniques to enhance your piece.	
	You have no nonpurposeful run-ons and fragments.	
	The grammar is polished according to Standard English conventions (or has good reasons where it doesn't follow the conventions).	

FIGURE 2.7 • Co-Constructed Criteria for Personal Essays