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| **Argument Essay Rubric** |
|  | **5** | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Introductory Paragraph** | * Attention-demanding hook
* Clear BG info w/ both sides introduced
* Strong thesis/claim statement
 | * Hook, background info, and thesis/claim are present
* Majority of elements are strong and minimal revision is needed
 | * Hook, background info, and thesis/claim are present
* Would benefit from revision
 | * Missing hook, background info, or thesis/claim
* Other elements are in need of revision
 | * Missing hook, background info, and/ or thesis/claim
* In need of serious revisions
 |
| **Body Paragraph Organization****Support: Topic, Reasons, Evidence, & Explanation** | * Clear Topic Sentence (includes main idea of paragraph AND connects to thesis)
* Set-Up (Lead in to Example)
* Specific Examples/One piece of Evidence for each paragraph
* Explanations show how evidence connects to reason and proves claim
 | * Topic Sentence Present
* Set-Up (Lead in to Example)
* At least one pieces of Specific examples/evidence per reason
* Explanations present
 | * Attempt at Topic Sent.
* List of facts/no set-up
* Specific Examples/

evidence are mostly present but either unclear or insufficient* Explanations attempted
 | * No clear topic sentence
* List of facts/no set-up
* Reasons and specific examples/evidence possibly attempted but unclear
* Explanations may not be present
 | * Body paragraphs attempted
* Topic Sentence, Reasons, evidence, and explanations are needed
 |
| **Ideas and Argument Appeals,** **Counterargument & Rebuttal**  | * Strong, realistic counterargument
* Rebuttal is logical and proves counterargument invalid
* Logical reasons (at least 2
* Appeals Used (at least 2)
 | * Counterargument anticipated
* Rebuttal fully explained
* At least two clear reasons
* Appeals used (at least two)
 | * Counterargument and rebuttal are both attempted
* Reasons are mostly present but either unclear or insufficient
* 1 Appeal
 | * One element may be missing or difficult to distinguish
* Appeal attempted but unclear
 | * Counterargument and rebuttal are needed
* No Appeals Used
 |
| **Conclusion** | * Strong restatement of thesis/claim
* Clear Summary Sentences for EACH Body Paragraph
* Strong closing statement that extends the argument and leaves readers thinking
 | * Restates thesis/claim statement
* Summary of BP attempt (missing 1 connection to thesis)
* Clear closing statement
 | * Restated thesis/claim is attempted
* Summary attempt made (missing 2 or more body paragraph connections
* Closing statement is attempted
 | * Either restated thesis/claim or closing statement may be unclear or missing
* Summary of Body Paragraphs weak
 | * Restated thesis/claim and closing statement are not apparent
* No Summary of Body Paragraphs
 |
| **Citations** | * Strong attempt to make in-text citations follow MLA format
* Strong attempt to make Work Cited page follow MLA format
 | * Fair attempt at in text citations and Work Cited page
 | * Attempted in text citations and Work Cited page
 | * In text citations or work cited page missing
 | * Sources are not referenced
 |
| **Writing Conventions**  | * Nearly flawless grammar, punctuation, spelling
 | * Few errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling
 | * A few patterns in grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors
 | * Frequent grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors impede meaning
 | * Writing is challenging to understand
 |
| **Sentence Structure** | effective, varied sentence structure and length | appropriate, varied sentence structure and length | adequate, though simple, sentence structure and length | ineffective, sentence structure and length | Incomplete (may be copied text from another source) |
| **MLA** | * Title Interesting – Font 12, Not Bold, Centered
* Size 12 Font
* Heading (Right)
* Works Cited Page if required
 | * May be missing one formal MLA formatting element
 | * May be missing two formal MLA formatting elements
 | * May be missing three formal MLA formatting elements
 | * May be missing four or more formal MLA formatting elements
 |
| **Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Raw Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/40 Overall Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |