Argumentative Text Rubric

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Exceptional** | **Skilled** | **Developing** | **Emerging/Inadequate** |
| **Intro & Conclusion****20%** | * Intro begins with a relevant attention getter that draws the reader in
* Intro contains an original, arguable thesis statement and claim
* Conclusion skillfully restates the essay’s thesis and claim
* Conclusion offers a final thought that identifies and thoroughly follows and supports the argument presented
 | * Intro begins with a mostly relevant attention getter that draws the reader in
* Intro contains an original thesis statement that is somewhat arguable
* Conclusion restates the essay’s thesis and claim
* Conclusion offers a final thought that begins to discuss the significance of the argument
 | * Intro begins with an attempt at an attention getter to draw the read in
* Intro contains a thesis statement that is original, though somewhat vague
* Conclusion attempts to restate the essay’s thesis and claim
* Conclusion attempts to offer a final thought, though the significance of the argument is unclear
 | * Intro begins with a weak attempt at an attention getter, or no attempt at all
* Intro contains an unoriginal thesis statement, or no thesis statement at all
* Conclusion poorly restates or fails to restate the essay’s thesis and claim
* Conclusion poorly offers or fails to offer a final thought regarding the significance of the argument
 |
| **Development****40%** | * Body paragraphs contain well-chosen, highly relevant textual evidence to support the thesis
* Each quote/paraphrase is seamlessly integrated in the body paragraphs
* Each quote/paraphrase is thoroughly explained and connected to the thesis
* Organizational pattern is well-chosen and enhances the development of the thesis statement
* Addresses the counterclaim fairly and thoroughly
 | * Body paragraphs contain appropriate and relevant textual evidence to support the thesis
* Each quote/paraphrase is appropriately integrated in the body paragraphs
* Each quote/paraphrase is explained and connected to the thesis
* Organizational pattern is appropriate and aids the development of the thesis statement
* Addresses the counterclaim briefly without development
 | * Body paragraphs contain somewhat appropriate and relevant textual evidence that partially supports the thesis
* There is an attempted to integrate each quote/paraphrase in the body paragraphs
* Most quotes/paraphrased are somewhat explained, though the connection to the thesis is somewhat unclear
* Organizational pattern is poorly chosen and impedes the development of the thesis statement
* Counterclaim is present
 | * Body paragraphs contain superficial textual evidence that hardly supports the thesis and claim
* Quotes/paraphrases are not integrated in the body paragraphs
* Quotes/paraphrases are minimally explained but not connected to the thesis or claim
* No use of quotes/paraphrases
* Lack of a clear organizational pattern
* Lack of counterclaim
 |
| **Craft & Language****20%** | * Skillful use of appropriate and varied transitions between ideas
* Precise vocabulary used to establish complexity of the thesis
* Formal, 3rd person voice used effectively throughout the essay
* Essay written consistently in present tense
 | * Use of appropriate transitions between ideas
* Appropriate vocabulary used to begin to establish the complexity of the thesis
* Formal, 3rd person voice used mostly throughout the essay
* Essay written mostly in present tense
 | * Use of transitions between most ideas
* Somewhat appropriate vocabulary used that merely hints at the complexity of the thesis
* Formal, 3rd person voice used inconsistently throughout the essay
* Essay only partially written in present tense
 | * Limited to no use of transitions between ideas
* Bland vocabulary used that does not suggest the complexity of the thesis
* Informal voice used throughout the essay
* Essay written inappropriately in past or future tense
 |
| **Conventions****20%** | * Proper MLA formatting used throughout essay
* All quotes/paraphrases are accompanied with proper MLA parenthetical citations
* Essay contains no mechanical errors that distract from the text’s meaning
 | * Proper MLA formatting mostly used throughout the essay
* All quotes/paraphrases are accompanied with citations, though they are not always correct
* Essay contains few mechanical errors that rarely distract from the text’s meaning
 | * Proper MLA formatting hardly used throughout the essay
* Some quotes/paraphrases are missing a citation
* Essay contains several mechanical errors that distract from the text’s meaning
 | * Improper formatting used throughout the essay
* Most or all quotes/citations are missing a citation
* Essay contains an abundance of mechanical errors that completely distract from the text’s meaning
 |