Argumentative Essay Scoring Guide

**Writing**

**Exceeds Standards:** Student meets all of the criteria to meet standards, plus one or more of the following:

- Conclusion articulates importance or significance of the stance.
- Explains the relationship between claims and counterclaims and provides evidence to demonstrate superiority of main claim.
- Balances examples of ethos, pathos and logos.

**Meets Standards:** Student meets all of the following criteria:

- Follows established format for argumentative essay writing:
  - Introduction with a "hook"
  - Claim that takes a stance on the topic
  - Body paragraphs that cite one argument each in support of claim
  - One body paragraph that develops the counterclaim
  - Conclusion that restates position
- Each argument paragraph includes evidence. Evidence can be facts, statistics, statements from authorities, experience, and/or observations.
- Context for evidence is provided.
- Evidence is connected to supporting idea through commentary.
- Uses examples of ethos, pathos, and/or logos.

**Approaches Standards:** Student meets 3–4 of the criteria to meet standards

**Attempts Standards:** Student meets 1–2 of the criteria to meet standards

**Academic Language**

**Exceeds Standards:** Student meets all of the criteria to meet standards, plus one or more of the following:

- Uses a variety of sentence structures.
- Uses complex transitions to link major sections of text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between complex ideas and concepts.
- Demonstrates awareness of audience through use of diction and syntax (register).

**Meets Standards:** Student meets all of the following criteria:

- Follows basic academic language conventions of punctuation, spelling, and capitalization.
- Uses basic transitions appropriately.
- Establishes and maintains a formal style and objective language (register).
- Follows MLA format (including citations).

**Approaches Standards:** Meets 2–3 of the criteria to meet standards

**Attempts Standards:** Meets 1 of the criteria to meet standards

**In addition, your essay must**

Include an Annotated Bibliography
Be 3–5 pages
Be submitted to Turnitin.com