Argumentative Essay Rubric

Element	4 points (100%)	3.5 points (88%)	3 points (75%)	2.5 points (63%)	0
Introduction Paragraph	 Original hook engages the reader's curiosity Background info is relevant; clearly develops into thesis Thesis/claim is strong (3 parts); clearly stated; correct location 	 Hook is somewhat interesting Background info is relevant; partially develops into thesis Thesis/claim is stated (3 parts) in the correct location 	 Hook restates the prompt; unoriginal Background info leaves reader with questions Thesis/claim is missing 1 part or in the incorrect location 	 Hook does not engage the reader Background info is missing important topics for clarity Thesis/claim is missing 2 parts or is confusing and in the incorrect location 	Hook missing Back- ground info missing Thesis missing
Organization & Transitions	Ideas are coherently organized into separate body paragraphs; topic sentences are complete Transitions are used correctly/sufficiently; essay flows logically	 Ideas are somewhat organized into separate body paragraphs; topic sentences are complete Transitions are used correctly at the beginning of each body paragraph & conclusion; sometimes used within body paragraphs 	 Ideas do not begin and end when they should; topic sentences are incomplete or are in incorrect locations Missing 1 body paragraph or conclusion transition; occasionally used within body paragraphs 	 Ideas are disorganized; topic sentences do not control the paragraph Missing 2+ body paragraph or conclusion transitions; rarely used within body paragraphs; lacks flow 	Para- graphing is not used Trans- itions are not used
Conclusion Paragraph	Conclusion stays on topic; provides closure; (3 parts)	Conclusion mostly stays on topic; somewhat provides closure; (3 parts)	Conclusion strays from topic or missing 1 part	Conclusion excessively strays from topic or missing 2 parts	Conclusion is missing
Counterclaim & Rebuttal	 C/C is effectively addressed in 3rd body paragraph; correct location Strong rebuttal is supported by compelling evidence; effectively refutes C/C 	 C/C is addressed in 3rd body paragraph; correct location Rebuttal is supported by relevant evidence; opposes C/C 	Attempt to address C/C is somewhat weak; incorrect location Rebuttal attempt is weak or evidence does not support rebuttal	 C/C merely restates the opposition's thesis rather than a supporting reason; incorrect location Rebuttal does not logically connect to C/C or missing evidence 	CC/ is missing Rebuttal is missing
Evidence & Elaboration	 All evidence is relevant & clearly connects to the thesis All evidence is cited correctly; minimum # sources present; plagiarism is not present All explanation & elaboration sentences clarify and extend ideas; context is present 	 Most evidence is relevant and connects to the thesis Some citation mistakes exist; minimum # sources present; plagiarism is not present Most explanation & elaboration sentences clarify and extend ideas; context is mostly present 	 Missing 1 piece of evidence or half are irrelevant Major citation issues exist or missing a required source; plagiarism is not present Explanation & elaboration sentences clarify but do not extend ideas; context is sometimes present 	 Missing 2+ pieces of evidence or 3+ pieces of evidence are irrelevant Evidence is cited incorrectly or some plagiarism is present Explanation & elaboration sentences are insufficient; context is rarely or not present 	Evidence is missing Citations are missing; ample plagairism E/E missing or mostly missing

Tone, Word Choice, & Conventions

- Tone is formal; no personal pronouns; no slang
- Strong words appropriate to stance are used; no repetition of major words; uses different text-talkers
- Punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and usage are correct; no or few errors
- Tone is mostly formal; 1 use of personal pronoun; 1 use of slang
- Word choice is mostly appropriate to stance; few repetitions of major words or text-talkers
- Punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and usage are mostly correct; some errors
- Tone is somewhat formal; 2-3 uses of personal pronouns; 2-3 uses of slang
- Word choice is somewhat appropriate to stance; some repetitions of major words or text-talkers
- Punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and usage are sometimes correct; several errors
- Lacks formality; 4+ uses of personal pronouns; 4+ uses of slang
- Word choice is basic and unrelated to stance; several repetitions of major words or text-talkers
- Punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and usage are frequently incorrect; frequent errors

Tone is informal; per. pn used throughout

Word choice is very repetitive; missing text-talke rs

Lack of correct CUPS interfere with understanding

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14 elements x 4 points = 56 points

Prewriting = 4 points

Total = 60 points

Score:

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