

Argument-Research Essay Grading Rubric

NAME:

		100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	60-	Score
Logos (30%)	Claim	10 - 9 Excellent and well supported argumentative claim.	8 - Good claim, but it could have been more strongly supported.	7 - Fair claim / the explicit claim is not in sync with the implicit claim / elements of the claim are not fully proven or addressed.	6 - Neither the explicit and implicit claim is clear or proven / the claim is not argumentative.	5 or lower - There is no claim.	10
	Evidence: Facts and sources outside	10-9 Excellent choice of evidence utilized. The sources are both valid and credible.	8 - Good use of evidence, but there are moments where stronger evidence could've been used / there was a need for additional backing. / One or two of the sources was not valid and/or credible.	7 - There is either an overuse or underuse of evidence / some of the evidence isn't appropriate for the argument. / Two or more sources are not valid and/or credible.	6 - There is little use of evidence / there is an excessive use of evidence / the evidence is not related to the claim being explored. / Three or more sources are not valid and/or credible.	5 or lower - No evidence is used./ The evidence used is not valid and/or credible.	10
	Reasoning: modes of discourse used, argument model.	10-9 Excellent reasoning constructs throughout.	8 - Good reasoning construct, but some of these feel like they could have been further developed.	7 - Fair reasoning/logic; however, some sections feel underdeveloped or not equally balanced./ There are one to two moments of weak logic or logical fallacy.	6 - There is little logic/reasoning used (too much reliance on evidence). There are two or more moments of weak logic or logical fallacy.	5 or lower - There is no logic/reasoning used to support the claim.	10
Pathos (20%)	Concession/R elutation	5 - 4.5 Excellent fair and balanced argument. You do a great job of showing different perspectives of the argument.	4 - Good level of balance; however, you don't fully show validity of the opposition OR you don't fully refute the opposition.	3.5 - Fair level of balance of perspectives. However, it's more of a superficial "show." Validity is not truly granted/ adequate backing isn't provided. You do not attempt to refute the concession.	3 - While there may be some "nod" to the opposition, the overall argument is fairly one sided.	1 - No effort is made to grant validity to opposing or other viewpoints.	5
	Creativity: Image and figurate language constructs	5 - 4.5 Excellent use of image and vivid descriptions.	4 - Good use of imagery and figurative language, though these could've been further developed.	3.5 - Fair use of creative constructs; however, more could've been used to highlight certain aspects of your claim.	3 - The use of imagery/figurative language is not fully connected to the claim and feels displaced.	1 - There are no moments of creative constructs.	5
	Overall Tone	10 - 9 Excellent tone and voice / original style / superior word choice.	8 - Good overall tone, though some phrases and words are repeated and weigh down the voice / there are some areas where an informal tone is used / there are several paragraphs where the voice is flat.	7 - Fair overall tone, though several phrases and words are repeated and weigh down the voice / there are several instances of informal tone / the voice is flat.	6 - There are excessive repetitive phrases and/or words / there is an informal tone used throughout / the grammar/syntax level compromises the tone.	5 - The tone is extremely: repetitive, informal, inappropriate, and/or flat.	10
Ethos (55%)	Essay Structure	10 - 9 Excellent balance between introduction, summary, body, paragraphs and conclusion.	8 - All components of a strong essay are included; however, there is an imbalance between 1 - 2 sections.	7 - All components of a strong essay are included; however, there is an imbalance between 3 - 4 sections.	6 - 1 - 2 components of the essay are missing.	5 - More than half of the required components of the essay are missing.	10
	Paragraph Transitioning	5 - 4.5 Excellent transitioning between all essay paragraphs.	4 - Good transitioning between paragraphs / some transitions could've been smoother.	3.5 - Fair transitioning between paragraphs-- in several areas, the transition is rough/jarring.	3 - There is little transitioning demonstrated between paragraphs.	1 - There is no transitioning between paragraphs.	5
	Internal Paragraph Flow	10 - 9 Excellent internal paragraph flow / strong use of transitional phrasing / superior logic flow.	8 - Good paragraph flow overall; however, 1 2 paragraphs have some awkward phrasing and/or logic.	7 - Fair paragraph flow overall; however, 2-3 paragraphs have some awkward or repetitive phrasing and/or logic.	6 - In more than half of the paragraphs there is little clarity/connectivity shown.	5 - The paragraphs maintain little to no clarity and/or connectivity.	10
	Incorporation of sources	5 - 4.5 Excellent and fluid incorporation of sources/ excellent variation of citation method.	4 - Good incorporation/synthesis of outside sources; one or two moments feel "forced" or like the source is "dropped in."	3.5 - Fair incorporation/synthesis of outside sources; however, several moments of citation are rough or jarring./ There is not much variation of citation method.	3 - There is reliance on only one method of citation./ The citations tend to be roughly "dropped in" to the argument./ They do not feel connected to the overall voice/flow.	1 - There are no moments of citations.	5
	MLA Conventions	5 - 4.5 Excellent and near perfect MLA format.	4 - Good MLA format; however, there are one or two consistent errors in internal citation and/or the Works Cited page.	3.5 - Fair MLA format; however, there are two or more consistent errors in internal citation and/or the Works Cited page.	3 - Poor MLA format; there are excessive errors in either internal citation and/or Works Cited page.	1 - There are no moments of citations/ there is no Works Cited page.	5
	Grammar/ Syntax	20 - 18 Near perfect grammar and sentence structure.	16 - There are minor errors in one or two of the areas listed below, typically 5-10.	14- There are several consistent errors in two or more of the areas listed below (typically between 8 - 15; however, it depends on what kind of errors).	12 - There are excessive errors in two or more of the areas listed below (typically between 15 - 20; however, it depends on what kind of errors).	10 - There are excessive errors in most sentences that compromise clarity.	20
Areas to improve:	GRAMMAR & SYNTAX: punctuation usage and identification of independent and dependent clauses (fragments, run-on sentences, comma splices, conjunctive adverbs, coordinating conjunctions, semi-colons and/or colons), missing words, incorrect verb tenses, verb-subject agreement, capitalization, homonyms, spelling, transitional phrasing, possessives.						

TOTAL: 105