Name: Periods: Due Date:

**Argumentative Essay Rubric**

*Writing Content*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **Thesis** |  |  | * - Relevant thesis
* - Addresses prompt
* - Most ideas are understandable
 | - Defensible thesis- Addresses prompt- Ideas and writing are understandable | * - Defensible thesis
* - Completely addresses prompt
* - [Clarified in scope](http://www.achievementfirst.org/fileadmin/templates/afhs/rubric/definitions/def-clarified-in-scope.php)
* - Ideas and writing are understandable
 | * - Defensible, slightly nuanced thesis
* -Encompasses full depth and breadth of assertions
* - Clarified in scope
* - [Ideas and writing are clear](http://www.achievementfirst.org/fileadmin/templates/afhs/rubric/definitions/def-ideas-and-writing-are-clear.php)
 |
| **Assertions** |  | * - Most assertions present
* - Most assertions relevant to prompt
 | * - All assertions support thesis
* - Assertion sequence may be arbitrary
* - Most ideas are understandable
 | * - All assertions support thesis
* - Assertion sequence may be arbitrary
* - Some assertions [clarified in scope](http://www.achievementfirst.org/fileadmin/templates/afhs/rubric/definitions/def-clarified-in-scope.php)
* - [Ideas and writing are understandable](http://www.achievementfirst.org/fileadmin/templates/afhs/rubric/definitions/def-ideas-and-writing-are-understandable.php)
 | * - Defensible assertions support thesis
* - Intentional assertion sequence may not be effective
* - Assertions clarified in scope when necessary
* - Ideas and writing are understandable
 | - Defensible assertions provide distinct support- Intentional assertion sequence may not be effective- Assertions clarified in scope when necessary- [Ideas and writing are clear](http://www.achievementfirst.org/fileadmin/templates/afhs/rubric/definitions/def-ideas-and-writing-are-clear.php) |
| **Evidence Selection** |  | * - Connected to assertion
* - Adequate in amount
 | * - Directly relevant to assertion
* - Adequate in amount
 | * - Strongly, accurately supports assertion
* - Adequate in amount
 | * - Persuasive, strong, accurate support for assertion
* - Appropriate in amount
* - Appropriate number of sources
 | * - Persuasive, strong, accurate support for assertion
* - Appropriate in amount
* - Above and beyond incorporation of outside sources
 |

**Defensible:** A thesis statement is defensible if a) an opposing argument / alternative view can reasonably be argued (even if it's the weaker argument) and b) it is not an obvious truth about the content / text.

**Clarified in scope**: If an assertion is "clarified in scope," then the statement limits the scope of the argument by providing context. Typically, this means that the assertion answers one or more of these questions: how, when, why, in what circumstances. This might also include defining unclear terms or being more specific.

**Adequate in amount:** At least two pieces of evidence per paragraph.

**Appropriate in amount:** Enough evidence to fully prove the argument.

*Writing Form*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **Organization** |  | * - Most body paragraphs present
* - Body paragraphs include most core components
 | * - Reasonable essay structure
* - Body paragraphs include almost all [core components](http://www.achievementfirst.org/fileadmin/templates/afhs/rubric/definitions/def-core-components-of-a-body-paragraph.php)
 | * - Reasonable essay structure
* - Body paragraphs include almost all core components
* - Present intro, conclusion
 | * - Reasonable essay structure
* - Sequence of logical body paragraphs support thesis
* - Appropriately structured intro, conclusion
 | * - Strong organizational structure moves reader through text
* - Intentional paragraph sequence logically advances argument
* - Inviting introduction draws reader in
* - Conclusion provides sense of closure
 |

**Core components:** The body paragraph includes:

   Assertion, Context, Evidence, Analysis, Context, Evidence, Analysis, Transition

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **MLA Formatting**  |  | Paper is **missing 4** or more of the following:- 12 point font size (Calibri, Arial, Times New Roman) - Text is left aligned - Paragraphs are indented once- Title is centered and professional- Double-spaced throughout- Correct header- Correctly quoted and cited evidence | Paper is **missing 3** of the following: - 12 point font size (Calibri, Arial, Times New Roman) - Text is left aligned - Paragraphs are indented once- Title is centered and professional- Double-spaced throughout- Correct header- Correctly quoted and cited evidence | Paper is **missing 1 – 2** of the following:- 12 point font size (Calibri, Arial, Times New Roman) - Text is left aligned - Paragraphs are indented once- Title is centered and professional- Double-spaced throughout- Correct header- Correctly quoted and cited evidence | Paper includes **all** of the following:- 12 point font size (Calibri, Arial, Times New Roman) - Text is left aligned - Paragraphs are indented once- Title is centered and professional- Double-spaced throughout- Correct header- Correctly quoted and cited evidence  |