Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Argumentative Essay Rubric**

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| **4**  **Exceeds the standard** | **3**  **Meets the standard** | **2**  **Nearly meets the standard** | **1**  **Beginning to address the standard** |
| The response is fully sustained and consistently and purposefully focused.  The response has a clear and effective organizational structure, creating unity and completeness.  Alternate claims or counterclaims are clearly and adequately addressed  The response provides thorough and convincing support/ evidence for the writer’s thesis (main claim). It includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details. The response achieves substantial depth that is specific and relevant:  Evidence selected from sources is smoothly integrated, relevant, and concrete (specific)  Plenty of MLA parenthetical citations are used to cite evidence | The response is adequately sustained and generally focused.  The response has an evident organizational structure and a sense of completeness, though there may be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected.  The response provides adequate support/evidence for the writer’s thesis (main claim). It includes sufficient use of sources, facts, and details. The response achieves some depth and specificity but is often general in nature.  Evidence selected from sources is adequately integrated, and often relevant and concrete (with some exceptions)  A sufficient number of MLA parenthetical citations are used to cite evidence, although some may be inconsistent or imprecise | The response is somewhat sustained and may have a minor drift in focus.  The response has an inconsistent organizational structure and flaws are evident.  The response provides uneven, cursory support/evidence for the writer’s thesis (main claim). It includes partial or uneven use of sources, facts, and details. The response achieves little depth.  Evidence from sources is weakly integrated and inconsistently relevant or concrete (specific)  Too few MLA parenthetical citations are used to cite evidence  Conversely, if sufficient citations are present, they are usually incomplete or incorrectly done) | The response may be related to the purpose but may offer little or no focus (or little relevant detail)  The response has little or no discernible organizational structure.  The response provides minimal support/evidence for the writer’s thesis (main claim). It includes little or no use of sources, facts, and details.  Use of evidence from sources is minimal, absent, in error, or irrelevant.  There may be no MLA parenthetical citations in the paper |