8th

Embedded Assessment: Writing an Argumentative Essay

**Scoring Guide**

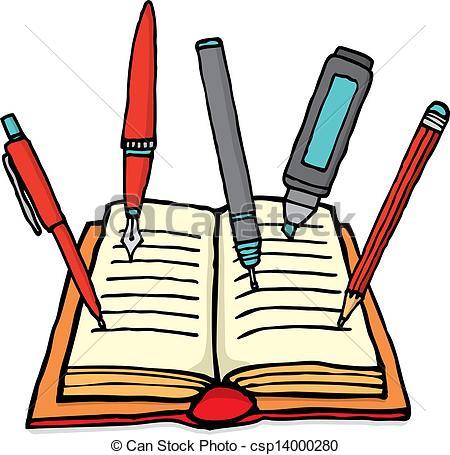
|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scoring Criteria** | **Exemplary 95** | **Proficient 85** | **Emerging 75** | **Incomplete 65** |
| **Ideas** | The essay   * supports a claim with compelling, relevant reasoning and evidence * provides extensive evidence of the research process (all sources cited) * addresses counterclaim(s) effectively | The essay   * supports a claim with sufficient reasoning and evidence * provides evidence of the research process (most sources cited) * addresses counterclaim(s) | The essay   * has an unclear or unfocused claim and/or inadequate support * provides insufficient evidence of the research process (few sources cited) * addresses counterclaims ineffectively | The essay   * has no claim or claim lacks support * provides little or no evidence of research (no sources cited) * does not reference a counterclaim |
| **Structure** | The essay   * has an introduction that engages the reader and defines the claim’s context * follows a logical organizational structure * uses a variety of effective transitional strategies * contains an insightful conclusion. | The essay   * has an introduction that includes a hook and background * follows an adequate organizational structure * uses transitional strategies to link ideas * has a conclusion that supports and follows from the argument. | The essay   * has a weak introduction * uses an ineffective or inconsistent organizational strategy * uses basic or insufficient transitional strategies * has an illogical or unrelated conclusion. | The essay   * lacks an introduction * has little or no obvious organizational structure * uses few or no transitional strategies * lacks a conclusion. |
| **Use of Language** | The essay   * uses precise diction and language effectively to convey tone and persuade an audience * demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar, and usage * is presented using effective volume, clarity, and eye contact | The essay   * uses diction and language to convey tone and persuade an audience * demonstrates adequate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar, and usage * is presented using appropriate volume, pronunciation, and eye contact | The essay   * uses basic or weak diction and language * demonstrates partial command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar, and usage; for the most part, errors do not impede meaning * is presented with some attention to eye contact, volume, and pace of delivery | The essay   * uses confusing or vague diction and language * lacks command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar, and usage * is presented with little attention to eye contact, volume, and pacing |

Directions: When you are finished typing and you have printed your essay, go through the following steps:

1. Read your essay out loud to yourself. This will help you catch anything that doesn’t make sense or flow. Make corrections as you go.
2. **Color code the elements** in your essay using the key below.

Also, as you color code, **label the parts of your essay by inserting them as comments (insert, comment).**

* 1. Introduction:
     + Hook – (neon green highlighter)
     + Background info. – (light gray highlighter)
     + Claim/thesis:
       - Claim (Italicize)
       - Reasons (yellow highlighter)
       - Opposing viewpoint (pink highlighter)
  2. Body Paragraph 1:



* + - Reason (yellow highlighter)
    - Evidence (light blue highlighter)
  1. Body Paragraph 2:
     + Reason (yellow highlighter)
     + Evidence (light blue highlighter)
  2. Body Paragraph 3:
     + Opposing Viewpoint (pink highlighter)
     + Counterclaim (light gray highlighter)
     + Evidence (light blue highlighter)
  3. Conclusion:
     + Call to Action – (red font color)
     + Restate thesis (italicize)
     + Final, VERY MEMORABLE appeal (dark green font color)
  4. Extras:
     + Transitions – (underline)
     + Connection to *The Giver/Animal Farm* - (bold)