

Persuasive Argument: Writing to a Prompt Rubric

Points	Content: written response shows an understanding and interpretation of the writing prompt.	Development: written response gives a clear and logical explanation of ideas, using supporting material.	Organization: written response shows a coherent, orderly, well-reasoned approach.	GUM: written response shows a sense of audience by using effective vocabulary and varied sentence structure.	Attention to Audience: Clear idea of who argument is addressed to
9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfies the requirements of the writing prompt in a creative and original manner. Uses a clear thesis statement Proves the thesis with insightful examples and details. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes introduction, 3+ body, and conclusion paragraphs Clearly defines 3 main reasons and strongly supports them with evidence Concession is evident 5 or > sentences in each paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets up and maintains a clear focus Establishes a logical, rational sequence of ideas with transitional words and sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has vivid language fluidity, and a sense of engagement and voice. Has sophisticated style of sentence structure, sentence variety and vocabulary Has essentially no errors 	Argument demonstrates a clear understanding of the potential audience and anticipates counterarguments.
7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a thoughtful analysis of the writing prompt. Provides a clear thesis statement Offers good examples to confirm the thesis statement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes introduction, 3 body, and conclusion paragraphs Body vaguely defines 2 main reasons Concession is included 4 sentences in each paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has an obvious plan of organization Focuses on the thesis statement Uses appropriate devices and transitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has good control of mechanics Contains some errors in language Has slightly lower quality of sentence structure and sentence variety 	Argument demonstrates a clear understanding of the potential audience and attempts to acknowledge counterarguments.
5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets some of the requirements of the prompt Includes some key elements that help explain the thesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes introduction, less than 3 body, and conclusion paragraphs There are 2 paragraphs Body has either 2 main reasons or 1 main reason and a concession 3 sentences in each paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has a general focus Obviously attempts organization Exhibits a logical sequence of ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has a sense of audience Uses simple sentences, but appropriate level of vocabulary Demonstrates partial control of mechanics Exhibit some error that do not interfere with comprehension 	Argument demonstrates some understanding of the potential audience and attempts to acknowledge counterarguments.
3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers a simple interpretation of the writing prompt. Lacks a thesis from which to base the essay Discusses very basic ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes 3 or less body paragraphs, introduction or conclusion paragraph is missing 2 or > sentences in each paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not show a logical sense of organization Strays from the topic Can be difficult to follow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses vocabulary below level Show's beginning control of language Has errors that begin to interfere with comprehension 	Argument demonstrates some understanding of the potential audience.
1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimally addresses the writing prompt. Digresses, repeats, or dwells on insignificant details throughout. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The letter is missing 3 or more essential paragraphs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digresses from the topic Is less organized than a 2-point response Exhibits no organizational pattern or focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows minimal control of language skills Has errors that make comprehension difficult or unrecognizable as English 	Argument does not seem to target any particular audience.

A Zero Paper: -totally unrelated to the topic, filled with indecipherable words, incoherent with illogical or garbled syntax, blank.