

AP Argument Rubric Checklist

High-Range Essay (9-8)

- _____ Indicates **complete** understanding of the requirements of the prompt.
- _____ Reveals **full understanding** of the ideas conveyed in the passage and the implications.
- _____ **Effectively develops a position** on the assigned topic.
- _____ The argument is **convincing**.
- _____ Does not generalize but **employs appropriate evidence** and develops that evidence **fully and comprehensively**; follows through; fully addresses the “So what?” question.
- _____ Indicates **complete** understanding of the requirements of the prompt.
- _____ **Is clear, well-organized, and coherent** -- is a complete “stand alone” argumentative essay rather than an exam response.
- _____ The prose demonstrates an ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing.
- _____ Contains **very few** errors or flaws, if any.

Middle-Range Essay (7-6-5)

- _____ Indicates **adequate** understanding of the requirements of the prompt.
- _____ Demonstrates **some or considerable** understanding of the ideas conveyed in the passage and the implications.
- _____ **Effectively develops a position** on the assigned topic.
- _____ The argument is **generally** convincing **but less cogent or developed**.
- _____ **Employs appropriate evidence** and develops that evidence **adequately**; follows through; fully addresses the “So what?” question. **5 essays may be even or digress.**
- _____ Is clear, well-organized, and coherent **for the most part; 5 essays may be uneven.**
- _____ The language **may contain lapses** in diction or syntax but is **generally clear**.
- _____ Contains **only minor** errors or flaws, if any.

Low-Range Essay (4-3-2-1)

- _____ **Inadequately** develops a position on the assigned topic.
- _____ **May misunderstand, misrepresent, or oversimplify** the ideas conveyed in the passage and the implications.
- _____ The link between the argument and the passage may be weak. Writer does not follow through.
- _____ Evidence provided **may be insufficient, inappropriate, or misused**.
- _____ Essay may suggest **only an emerging control** of writing.
- _____ Essay **has very many** mechanical/grammatical/spelling errors.

YOUR AP SCORE: _____

Comments: