

Name: _____

Argumentative Essay Rubric

	ADVANCED – 10 Points	MEETS EXPECTATIONS – 8 Points	NOT YET – 6 Points
FOCUS	Addresses all aspects of the prompt with a highly focused and convincing response.	Addresses the prompt and stays on task; provides a generally convincing response	Attempts to address prompt but lacks focus or is off-task.
RESEARCH	Demonstrates accurate and effective use of reading materials to develop argument or proposal and a solid understanding of content as presented in the prompt.	Demonstrates generally effective use of reading materials to develop argument or proposal and an understanding of the content as presented in the prompt.	Demonstrates weak use of reading materials to develop argument or proposal.
CONTROLLING IDEA	Establishes a substantive and credible claim or proposal. Acknowledges relevant competing arguments, defending or qualifying the claim or proposal as appropriate.	Establishes a credible claim or proposal. Acknowledges competing arguments while defending the claim or proposal.	Establishes a claim or proposal but is weak or off-task. Attempts to acknowledge competing arguments.
DEVELOPMENT	Develops a detailed and convincing argument or proposal; provides relevant evidence in the form of examples or explanations with statements from reading material. Makes a clarifying connection that illuminates argument and adds depth to reasoning.	Develops a satisfactory argument or proposal using reasoning with adequate detail to support claim or proposal; provides evidence from text(s) in the form of examples or explanations relevant to the argument or proposal. Makes a relevant connection that helps to clarify argument or proposal.	Lacks details to support reasoning; examples or explanations are weak or not relevant. Connection is not relevant.
ORGANIZATION	Applies an appropriate text structure that develops reasoning; applies a logic model, such as deductive reasoning.	Applies an appropriate text structure that develops reasoning; applies a logic model.	Provides a weak text structure; composition is confusing.
CONVENTIONS	Demonstrates a well-developed command of standard English conventions and cohesion; employs language and tone appropriate to audience and purpose.	Demonstrates a satisfactory command of standard English conventions and cohesion; employs language and tone appropriate to audience and purpose.	Demonstrates a weak command of standard English conventions; lacks cohesion; language and tone are not appropriate to audience and purpose.

Total: _____ / 60