Argument Rubric

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name: | Grading Students on Effort | Date: |  |

Use the following checklist to evaluate your work or that of a classmate for the traits of effective writing.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2 | **Stimulating IDEAS** |
|  | ***The writing . . .***   * states an opinion about an important topic. * contains convincing reasons to support the opinion. |
| 2 | **Logical ORGANIZATION** |
|  | ***The writing . . .***   * includes a clear beginning, middle, and ending. * arranges ideas in an effective manner (perhaps offering the strongest point first or last). * presents a clear, logical argument. |
| 3 | **Engaging VOICE** |
|  | ***The writing . . .***   * speaks in a convincing, positive tone. * shows that the writer feels strongly about his or her opinion. |
| 2 | **Original WORD CHOICE** |
|  | ***The writing . . .***   * explains all important terms. * uses language that shows an understanding of the topic and a respect for the audience. |
| 2 | **Effective SENTENCE STYLE** |
|  | ***The writing . . .***   * flows smoothly from sentence to sentence. * displays varied sentence beginnings and lengths. |
| 2 | **Correct, Accurate COPY** |
|  | ***The writing . . .***   * observes the basic rules of writing. * follows the form suggested by the teacher. |

**Comments:**

Even though you make some good points, your essay is not very persuasive. To develop an effective argument, you need to identify strong supporting points and then develop each one of these points thoroughly (at least one paragraph per point). You never seem to crack the surface and get down to specifics. Have a trusted editor help you check for errors.