**Assessment Rubric**: Argument Writing

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| Name: | The Greatest Inauguration Speech | Date: |  |

Rate your argument writing from 1 (incomplete) to 6 (amazing) for each trait below. Add the scores together and divide by the number of traits (6) to find your overall score.

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| 3 | **STIMULATING IDEAS** |
|  | ***The argument . . .**** states a clear position on a debatable issue.
* supports the position statement with strong reasons, logical arguments, and effective details.
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| 2 | **LOGICAL ORGANIZATION** |
|  | ***The argument . . .**** catches the reader’s attention at the beginning, gives background, and leads to the position statement.
* uses well-developed middle paragraphs to argue for the position with supporting reasons and details.
* ends by revisiting the position and the arguments.
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| 3 | **ENGAGING VOICE** |
|  | ***The argument . . .**** sounds knowledgeable, convincing, and logical.
* shows concern without being inflammatory.
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| 2 | **ORIGINAL WORD CHOICE** |
|  | ***The argument . . .**** uses action verbs and precise nouns.
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| 2 | **EFFECTIVE SENTENCE STYLE** |
|  | ***The argument . . .**** varies sentence types, lengths, and beginnings.
* reads smoothly from sentence to sentence.
 |
| 4 | **CORRECT, ACCURATE COPY** |
|  | ***The argument . . .**** has correct punctuation, capitalization, grammar, usage, and spelling.
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If the assignment had been to create a parody, this speech would have been excellent. As a jab at bad speech making, though, it exhibits the traits of bad speeches—lack of focus and organization, inappropriate voice, repetitive word choice, poorly constructed sentences, and so on. You took a risk, as you often do, but this risk did not pay off.