**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. |
| 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. |
| 3 | **ENGAGING VOICE** |
|  | ***The argument . . .***   * sounds knowledgeable, convincing, and logical. * shows concern without being inflammatory. |
| 2 | **ORIGINAL WORD CHOICE** |
|  | ***The argument . . .***   * uses action verbs and precise nouns. |
| 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. |

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.