**Assessment Rubric**: Argument Writing

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name: | Inauguration Speech of the 49th U.S. President | 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.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | |
| 4 | **STIMULATING IDEAS** |
|  | ***The argument . . .***   * states a clear position on a debatable issue. * supports the position statement with strong reasons, logical arguments, and effective details. |
| 4 | **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. |
| 5 | **ENGAGING VOICE** |
|  | ***The argument . . .***   * sounds knowledgeable, convincing, and logical. * shows concern without being inflammatory. |
| 4 | **ORIGINAL WORD CHOICE** |
|  | ***The argument . . .***   * uses action verbs and precise nouns. |
| 4 | **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. |

You’ve written a rousing inauguration speech making excellent use of repetition, emotional appeals, and other strong rhetorical devices. A few more specifics would help support the high-flown language, and in places, word choice could be improved. A final proofread would help catch the few errors that remain in this document.