**Explanatory Rubric**

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| **Name:** |   | **Title:** | Gangs in Our Community |



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| --- | --- |
| 2 | **Ideas** |
| The writing . . .* includes a clear, effective thesis statement.
* provides a variety of interesting details to support it.
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| 2 | **Organization** |
| * begins by capturing the reader’s interest and providing the thesis statement.
* has an effectively organized middle.
* focuses on one main point for each middle paragraph.
* ends by summarizing the ideas and giving the reader a final thought.
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| 3 | **Voice** |
| * has a voice that shows knowledge of the topic.
* has a voice that engages the reader.
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| 2 | **Word Choice** |
| * uses precise nouns and active verbs.
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| 1 | **Sentence Fluency** |
| * uses a variety of sentence lengths and beginnings.
* flows smoothly from one sentence to another.
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| 1 | **Conventions** |
| * uses end punctuation and commas correctly.
* correctly capitalizes first words and proper nouns.
* avoids spelling errors.
* correctly uses words (*there, they’re, their*).
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**Comments:** Your essay addresses a very important subject, but it lacks a specific thesis or focus statement. In addition, a reader needs more specific information that is clearly organized to better understand your subject.

 You have a forceful writing voice; but sentence, grammar, and spelling errors make your writing hard to follow. Work with a trusted editor before completing a final copy.

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