	7 points	5 points	3 points	1 point	0 points
Thesis statement	Complete. Original thesis		Not the original thesis	Problematic	None
Grabber	Strong attention grabber	Somewhat interesting	Weak, but there	Attempt made	None
Supporting reasons and details for reason 1 (X3)	All strong and clear. Adds to strength of argument.	Most are strong and clear.	One is strong and clear.	Weak and unclear.	
Supporting reasons and details for reason 2 (X3)	All strong and clear. Adds to strength of argument.	Most are strong and clear.	One is strong and clear.	Weak and unclear.	
Supporting reasons and details for reason 3 (X3)	All strong and clear. Adds to strength of argument.	Most are strong and clear.	One is strong and clear.	Weak and unclear.	
Conclusion	Strong and compelling	Simply restates thesis	Weak, but there	Attempt made	None
Other positions	States several, and argues	States one, and argues	States, but no comment made		None
POV	Consistently fair, persuasive & unemotional	Usually fair, persuasive & unemotional	Not usually fair, persuasive, &/or unemotional	Unfair and too emotional.	
Personal pronouns	None used.	One used	Two used	Three or more used.	
Word choice	Rich, powerful and appropriate vocabulary	Uses some unique vocabulary	Attempts to use unique words that are specific to the topic	Writing contains overused vocabulary	
Persuasive quotient	Highly persuasive	Persuasive	Somewhat persuasive	Not especially persuasive	
Audience	Clearly focused on audience	Somewhat focused on audience	Rarely focuses on audience	Seems not aware of audience	
In-text citations	Includes three or more that strengthen argument. Cited correctly.	Includes up to three that strengthen argument Cited correctly.	Fewer than three, but they aid argument. Correctly cited.	Fewer than three; don't aid argument; incorrectly cited.	None
Works cited page	At least 4 works cited; formatted correctly.	Four works are cited; formatted correctly.	There is a works cited page: problems with formatting	Citations don't match in-text citations.	None
Database usage	Uses at least one that supports argumnent	Uses one that supports argument.		Uses one: information not helpful	Database information is not helpful.
Spelling, capitalization, punctuation	No more than 2 or 3 minor errors	Several errors	Many errors	Little evidence of proofreading	No evidence of proofreading
Grammar and usage	No more than 2 or 3 minor errors	Several errors	Many errors	Little evidence of proofreading	No evidence of proofreading
MLA formatting throughout	Completely	Mostly in MLA format: one error	Two errors in formatting	Three errors in formatting	Seems unaware of requirement
Pre-work	Prewriting & 1st draft included		Prewriting or 1st draft included		None