

Persuasive Essay—6-point rubric

	Audience and Purpose	Organization	Elaboration	Use of Language
Score 6	Clearly states the author's position and effectively persuades the reader of the validity of the author's argument	Well organized, with strong transitions helping to link words and ideas	Develops its arguments with specific, well-elaborated support	Varies sentence structures and makes good word choices; very few errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation
Score 5	Clearly states the author's position and persuades the reader	Clearly organized, although an occasional lapse may occur	Develops its arguments with specific support	Some sentence variety and good word choices; some errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation, but they do not interfere with reader understanding
Score 4	States a position and adequately attempts to persuade the reader	Is consistently organized, although perhaps simplistically	Provides some elaborated support of the author's position	Sentence structures and word choices are appropriate; errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation may occur, but they do not interfere with reader understanding
Score 3	Although a position may be stated, either it is unclear or undeveloped	May have organization in some parts but lacks organization in other parts	The support of the position may be brief, repetitive, or irrelevant	Inconsistent control of sentence structures and incorrect word choices; errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation occasionally interfere with reader understanding
Score 2	Either a position is not clearly given or little attempt is made at persuasion	Very disorganized and not easy to follow	The support of the position is not well developed	Problematic sentence structures and frequent inaccuracies in word choices; errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation hinder reader understanding
Score 1	Little effort is made to persuade because there is no position taken or because no support is given	Lacks organization and is confusing and difficult to follow; may be too brief to assess organization	Lacks support	Little or no control over sentences and incorrect word choices may cause confusion; many errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation severely hinder reader understanding

General Resources

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