

Student Friendly Scoring Guide—Persuasive Essay

4

The essay-

- Clearly completed all parts of the writing assignment.
- Clearly states the thesis*; organization and focus are consistent throughout assignment.
- Uses thoughtful examples and specific details to support the topic and thesis* statement.
- Uses a variety of sentence types and precise, descriptive language.
- Clearly written for the intended reader.
- Contains few mistakes in punctuation, grammar and spelling; revised in first draft.

Persuasive Composition:

- Takes a clear stand on an issue with specific and related information ; writes to and addresses the reader's concerns, beliefs, and expectations.

3

The essay-

- Includes all steps of the writing assignment.
- Gives a point of view (thesis* statement) on the topic, stays on the topic, and is organized.
- Uses several examples and details to support the main idea and thesis*.
- Uses several sentence types with some descriptive vocabulary.
- Addresses the reader.
- Has some punctuation, grammar and spelling mistakes, but is easily understood.

Persuasive Composition:

- Takes a clear stand and gives some evidence ; writes to and addresses the reader's concerns, beliefs, and expectations.

2

The essay-

- Covers only parts of the writing assignment.
- May have a main idea or thesis statement, but wanders off topic; order of events may be confused.
- May support the thesis* statement, but more details and examples are needed.
- Uses short basic sentences and limited descriptive vocabulary.
- Has little or no awareness of the reader.
- Has errors in punctuation, grammar and spelling that may make it difficult for the reader to understand.

Persuasive Composition:

- Takes a stand but may not have made position clear, with little evidence, and may write to some of the readers concerns, beliefs, and expectations.

1

The essay-

- Talks about only one part of the task.
- Wanders away from topic, is unorganized, has no main point or thesis statement.
- Does not use examples or details to support ideas.
- Uses sentences that sound alike and are missing descriptive words.
- Has no awareness of the reader.
- Has many punctuation, grammar and spelling mistakes that make it difficult for the reader to understand.

Persuasive Composition:

- Does not take a side – does not use evidence to show why the writer took the side – does not show concern for what the reader expects, cares about, or feels.

* A thesis is a statement that shows a specific purpose or opinion about your topic.