

Category	Thesis Statement	Introduction	Three reasons with supporting details (Body)	Rhetorical Strategies	Conclusion	Grammar (Mechanics and Usage)	Citations	Works Cited Page	Counterclaim
Exceeds Standards	22 pts: Clearly and concisely states the paper's purpose in a single sentence, which is engaging and thought-provoking.	12 pts: Intro is engaging, states the main topic, and previews the structure of the paper.	20 pts: Each paragraph has thoughtful supporting details that develop the main idea. All body paragraphs tie back directly to the thesis.	14 pts: Effectively uses ethical, emotional, and logical appeals. Speech is very convincing and ideas are fully developed.	12 pts: The conclusion is engaging and restates the thesis.	10 pts: No errors in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling. No errors in sentence structure and word usage.	10 pts: All parenthetical citations (at least three) are done in MLA format correctly.	5 pts: A Works Cited Page is present and all citations (3) are formatted correctly in MLA format.	15 pts: A strong counterclaim with a strong refutation is present. The counterclaim is cited correctly.
Meets Standards	18-21 pts: Clearly states the paper's purpose in a single sentence.	8-11 pts: Intro states the main topic and previews structure of the paper.	16-19 pts: Each paragraph has sufficient supporting detail sentences that develop the main idea.	10-13 pts: Uses ethical, emotional, and logical appeals. Speech is convincing; organization of ideas developed.	8-11 pts: The conclusion restates the thesis.	6-9 pts: Almost no errors in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling. Almost no errors in sentence structure and word usage.	6-9 pts: Missing one parenthetical citation and/or errors with citation/s.	3-4 pts: A Works Cited Page is present but there are error/s with citations and/or one citation is missing.	12-14 pts: A counterclaim with a refutation is present. The counterclaim is cited correctly.
Nearly Meets Standards	15-17 pts: States the paper's purpose in a single sentence.	5-7 pts: Intro states the main topic but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper.	13-15 pts: Each paragraph lacks supporting detail sentences.	7-9 pts: Attempts to use ethical, emotional, and logical appeals and/or some missing. Speech is somewhat convincing.	5-7 pts: The conclusion does not adequately restate the thesis.	3-5 pts: Many errors in punctuation, capitalization, spelling, word usage, and sentence structure.	3-5 pts: Missing two parenthetical citations.	2 pts: A Works Cited Page is present but two citations are missing.	8-10 pts: A counterclaim is present, but a weak/no refutation is included. The counterclaim is cited incorrectly or is missing.
Does not meet	10-14 pts: Incomplete and/or unfocused.	2-4 pts: There is no clear introduction or main topic; the structure of the paper is lacking.	10-12 pts: Each paragraph fails to develop the main idea.	4-6 pts: Ineffectively uses rhetorical appeals and/or many missing. Argument is not fully developed.	2-4 pts: Incomplete and/or unfocused.	1-2 pts: Numerous and distracting errors in punctuation, capitalization, spelling, word usage, and sentence structure.	1-2 pts: Only one parenthetical citation is present.	1 pt: A Works Cited Page is present with only one citation and/or extreme errors.	4-6 pts: A weak counterclaim and a weak/no refutation is present. The counterclaim is cited incorrectly or is missing.
No evidence	0 pts: No thesis statement.	0 pts: Absent; no evidence.	N/A	0 pts: No rhetorical appeals present.	0 pts: Absent	N/A	0 pts: No citations are present.	0 pts: No Works Cited page included.	0 pts: No counterclaim nor refutations present.

