

Persuasive Essay : Position Paper

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Position Statement	The position statement provides a clear, strong statement of the author's position on the topic.	The position statement provides a clear statement of the author's position on the topic.	A position statement is present, but does not make the author's position clear.	There is no position statement.
Outline	The outline is complete and thorough in details.	The outline is complete.	The outline is present but limited in details.	The outline is very limited or not present.
Introduction	The introductory paragraph has a strong hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience.	The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience	The author has an introductory paragraph but the connection to the topic is limited or is not completely developed.	The introductory paragraph is not interesting AND is not relevant to the topic.
Support for Position	Includes 3 pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that strongly supports the position statement.	Includes 3 pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that support the position statement.	Includes 1 or 2 pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that somewhat supports the position statement.	Includes no pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences).
Closing paragraph	The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader solidly understanding the writer's position.	The conclusion is recognizable and leaves the reader understanding the writer's position.	The conclusion is recognizable but leaves the reader not understanding the writer's position or is not completely developed.	The conclusion is limited or missing and leaves the reader not understanding the writer's position.
Accuracy	All supportive facts and statistics are reported accurately.	Almost all supportive facts and statistics are reported accurately.	Most supportive facts and statistics are reported accurately.	Most supportive facts and statistics were inaccurately reported or not reported at all.
Grammar & Spelling and Format	Author makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. All five paragraphs are complete.	Author makes some errors in grammar or spelling that don't distract from essay. All five paragraphs are complete.	Author makes many errors in grammar or spelling that distract from essay. All five paragraphs are present	Author makes numerous errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. Missing paragraphs
Sources	All sources used for quotes, statistics and facts are credible and cited correctly.	All sources used for quotes, statistics and facts are credible and most are cited correctly.	Most sources used for quotes, statistics and facts are credible and cited correctly.	Many sources are suspect (not credible) AND/OR are not cited correctly.

