

AP Persuasive Essay Rubric

Criteria	Exemplary 4	Proficient 3	Needs Improvement 2	Unacceptable 1	Student Grade	Teacher Grade
Thesis & main points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Informative intro, grabs attention, general to specific thesis <input type="checkbox"/> Clear, concise arguable thesis, strong verb <input type="checkbox"/> Clearly illicit precise and inventive ideas on topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Informative intro, general to specific <input type="checkbox"/> Wordy//awkward arguable thesis with strong verb <input type="checkbox"/> Intelligent ideas, lacking originality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Disjointed intro, may be missing key info <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis weak argument/weak verb <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis may be hidden and it is up to the reader to discover 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Intro vague or gaps in connection <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis-no argument <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction is based on generalizations without analyzing the question 		
Quote Selection/Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> quotes provide meaningful evidence to support assertions <input type="checkbox"/> Quotes are directly related argument <input type="checkbox"/> 2 strong assertions per paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> well prefaced passages <input type="checkbox"/> all reflective comments Strong, appropriate transitional elements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> most quotes provide meaningful evidence <input type="checkbox"/> most quotes related to argument <input type="checkbox"/> 2 meaningful AQC per paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> Most quotes prefaced <input type="checkbox"/> most comments reflective transitional elements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> some quotes merely restate assertions <input type="checkbox"/> Quote choice needs improvement <input type="checkbox"/> comments restate assertions/some missing <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient development of ideas <input type="checkbox"/> more transitional elements needed or some inappropriate ones <input type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> no quotes or examples or inappropriate ones <input type="checkbox"/> Most quotes do not show connection to argument <input type="checkbox"/> missing comments <input type="checkbox"/> Poor or no discussion of quotes used. no transitional 		
Organization & Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Body paragraphs clearly organized around separate ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Strong topic sentences <input type="checkbox"/> Summative conclusion, specific to general offers insight into argument <input type="checkbox"/> Sophisticated, precise language engages reader <input type="checkbox"/> Uses language to expresses complex ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Varied sentence length /structure <input type="checkbox"/> Lively active verbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Most body paragraphs organized around separate ideas. <input type="checkbox"/> Most topic sentence strong <input type="checkbox"/> Conclusion specific to general needs to offer insight into argument <input type="checkbox"/> Some complex vocabulary <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence length/structure enhances flow. <input type="checkbox"/> Lively active verbs <input type="checkbox"/> Many strong adjectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient body paragraph development to support thesis <input type="checkbox"/> Weak topic sentences <input type="checkbox"/> Conclusion not persuasive, may contain trite expressions (i.e. "In conclusion" or "In summary") <input type="checkbox"/> Vocab may be simplistic <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence length structure may be choppy <input type="checkbox"/> May include colloquial expressions <input type="checkbox"/> Some passive verbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Body paragraphs summarize rather than analyze <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs do not support thesis Conclusion missing <input type="checkbox"/> Limited vocabulary <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect/ineffective sentence structure <input type="checkbox"/> Run-ons/ fragments <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly passive verbs <input type="checkbox"/> Weak adjectives 		
Development: Incite & Originality	<p>Demonstrates critical thinking that is clear, logical, deep, broad, and relevant to the topic. Uses imagination to make clear connections with ideas Takes risks in writing to effective prove thesis.</p>	<p>Well- developed with more than adequate detail and may show depth in thinking and research. Makes connections without higher level of thinking Understands topic, but offers slight underdeveloped ideas</p>	<p>Possesses limited knowledge of subject, little substance, and weaknesses in development Analysis is general and lacks originality Represents slight misunderstanding of the topic and individual interpretation</p>	<p>Undeveloped ideas, does not form conclusions or exhibit critical thinking. Rambling generalizations that are loosely, if not at all, connected to the topic Paraphrases ideas instead of using any form of analytical thoughts</p>		
Format/Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Displays overall accuracy in which errors do not compromise understanding of writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Displays few errors that do not compromise understanding of writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Displays many errors that compromise understanding of writing <input type="checkbox"/> Uneven development in which grammar hinders the understanding of the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Displays glaring errors that seriously compromise understanding of entire piece. <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent, if not any, control over the elements of writing <input type="checkbox"/> Rambling 		