

Ten-Point Rubric - PERSUASIVE

9-10 – Both a 9 and a 10 contain the following elements. A 10 also elicits a “Wow.”

- An interesting and cohesive introduction that contains a strong thesis
- Two or more body paragraphs that each contain a distinct reason and solid, supporting evidence
- At least one counter-argument that is fleshed out followed by a convincing rebuttal
- A conclusion that restates the argument and/or calls for a particular action and/or points out an irony
- Strong voice and sense of style
- Distinctive syntax
- Sophisticated diction
- Facility with mechanics

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- An interesting and cohesive introduction that contains a strong thesis
- Two or more body paragraphs that each contain a reason and supporting evidence
- At least one counter-argument that is followed by a rebuttal
- A conclusion that restates the argument and/or calls for a particular action and/or points out an irony
- Strong voice and sense of style OR
- Distinctive syntax OR
- Sophisticated diction OR
- Facility with mechanics

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- An introduction that contains a strong thesis
- Two or more body paragraphs that each contain a reason and supporting evidence
- At least one counter-argument that is followed by a rebuttal
- A conclusion that restates the argument and/or calls for a particular action and/or points out an irony
- Limited sense of style AND/OR
- Syntax that is unvaried AND/OR
- Diction that is basic AND/OR
- Mechanics that are flawed

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- An introduction that contains a thesis
- Two or more body paragraphs that each contain a reason, one of which contains supporting evidence
- At least one counter-argument no matter how weak that is followed by a rebuttal no matter how weak
- A conclusion that restates the argument and/or calls for a particular action and/or points out an irony
- Limited sense of style AND/OR
- Syntax that is unvaried AND/OR
- Diction that is basic AND/OR
- Mechanics that are super flawed

4-5 – Both a 4 and a 5 contain the following elements. The difference is in matter of degree.

- A thesis
- One or more body paragraphs that contain a reason and perhaps some supporting evidence
- A counter-argument with or without a rebuttal
- A conclusion OR
- Strong voice and sense of style OR
- Distinctive syntax OR
- Interesting diction OR
- Partial facility with mechanics or at least an earnest attempt by an English Language Learner

3 – Thesis and one reason only; **2** – Thesis only; **1** – Some attempt at writing, but off-topic