

Persuasive Writing Scoring Guide

Five Features in Persuasive Writing

- **Clarity of Position:** States a Position
- **Organization and Development:** Arrangement and Support of Position
- **Audience Awareness:** Response to Reader Questions and Counterarguments
- **Language:** Sentence Structure & Vocabulary
- **Conventions:** Spelling, Grammar, & Punctuation

4 • ADVANCED

- Writing presents a clear position throughout; presentation is entertaining, engaging or original
- Reasons for position are fully developed; arguments are well supported by organized appropriate examples, details and anecdotes
- Writing shows reader awareness through strategic and convincing support for position and thorough response to counterargument
- Language is persuasive, precise and lively; sentences are varied and vocabulary adds to the persuasiveness of the writing
- Writing shows clear control of writing conventions though there may be a few errors that are “first-draft” in nature

3 • PROFICIENT

- Writing states a position; presentation is straightforward
- Reasons, examples and/or anecdotes support and develop the position. Arguments are supported and organized; ideas are clear; opinions may be presented as facts
- Writing shows reader awareness through support for position and attempt at response to counterargument
- Language is clear; sentence types are varied; vocabulary is specific
- Writing shows control of writing conventions; errors do not interfere with meaning

2 • DEVELOPING

- Writing states position but presentation may be brief, vague, or confusing
- Reasons and examples insufficiently support the position. Development is incomplete; middle and/or conclusion may be abrupt or missing
- Writing may show reader awareness and may not acknowledge counterargument
- Language is simple; sentence types are mostly simple or repetitive; vocabulary is general
- Errors may interfere with meaning.

1 • EMERGING

- Position is difficult to identify or absent; presentation may be brief, vague, or confusing
- Limited development of arguments; support is brief or incoherent
- Reader awareness is difficult to identify
- Language is general and vague; sentences may be incomplete or run-on
- Errors in conventions interfere with meaning or make writing difficult to understand

OT • Off Topic

NR • No Response