

Rubric Controversial Issue Writing

	Exceptional 5	Good 4	Adequate 3	Limited 2	Insufficient 1	Student Score
Thesis/Antithesis	~Clearly states a firm position ~Anticipates and effectively counters challenges to position	~Clearly states a position ~ Anticipates and counters challenges to position	~States a position fairly clearly ~ Adequately counters challenges to position	~Position noncommittal ~Mentions possible counter arguments but doesn't sufficiently refute them	~Position is not stated ~May mention possible challenges but does not refute them	
Evidence Concrete Details	~A minimum of 3 pro arguments effectively supported, each by at least 3 blended quotations (evidence, facts) from valid sources	~3 pro arguments supported, each by at least 3 quotations from valid sources (one argument may not be as strong as other two)	~3 pro arguments adequately supported, each by at least 2 quotations from valid sources ~Quotations may not be blended smoothly	~ Pro arguments supported, each by at least 2 examples, definitions, or evidence ~Sources may be questionable	~At least 1 pro argument adequately supported, by at least one example, definition, or evidence from sources ~Sources may be questionable	Double Score
Commentary	~Insightful and well developed analysis of the evidence integrated smoothly with the CD demonstrating logic and reasoning	~Thoughtful analysis of the CD demonstrating logic and reasoning ~ May be at times predictable or not completely developed	~Adequate analysis the CD ~ May demonstrate some faulty logic	~Some analysis of the CD ~Analysis may demonstrate faulty Logic	~Little or no analysis of the CD ~Analysis may be predictable. ~May demonstrate faulty logic	Double Score
Organization	~Clear and effective introduction/Attention Getter ~Clear and effective transitions ~Guides reader with "road sign" words ~Effective signal phrases ~Strong conclusion providing closure	~Clear introduction/Attention Getter ~Provides transitions ~Guides reader through use of "road sign" words ~Clear conclusion providing closure	~Fairly clear introduction ~Occasional use of transitions ~Conclusion may not be fully developed	~Introduction may not be effective ~Infrequent use or misleading use of transitions ~Conclusion may not be fully developed	~Introduction and/or conclusion missing ~Weak or ineffective transitions	
MLA	~ Few or no errors in MLA	~Limited errors in MLA	~Some errors in MLA but it is clear that the writer understands the format	Frequent errors in MLA format	Serious and numerous errors in MLA format	
Voice and Style	~Tone/style appropriate to subject and audience ~An exceptionally strong sense of audience ~Establishes credibility of self as author ~Engaging, lively and interesting	~Tone/style appropriate to subject ~A strong sense of audience ~Credible author ~Relatively engaging ~May or may not take risks	~Tone/style appropriate to subject ~ a sense of audience but may not be consistent ~Credible author ~More rote, less engaging	~Tone/style not appropriate to subject ~ a limited sense of audience ~Lack of credibility ~Style is mechanical	~Tone/style not appropriate to subject ~Lack of audience awareness ~Lack of credibility ~Writing is lifeless or mechanical	
Sentence Structure/Mechanics	~Few or no errors in sentence structure or mechanics. ~Sentence structure is sophisticated-- variety of sentence types	~Few errors in sentence structure ~Sentence structure may not be as sophisticated as the 5 but writer uses a variety of sentence types	~Some errors in sentence structure and mechanics which do not distract the reader ~Some variety	~Frequent errors in structure and mechanics ~Little sentence variety or numerous simple sentences	~Serious and/or numerous errors in sentence structure and mechanics	