<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Development</th>
<th>Focus &amp; Organization</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Conventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>o Uses plenty of well-chosen, on-topic evidence to develop the topic. o Fully and correctly explains the evidence. o Shows a clear understanding of the topic.</td>
<td>o Contains an interesting and on-topic introduction. o Uses advanced organization to help the reader understand. o Excellently connects ideas. o Contains an interesting and on-topic conclusion.</td>
<td>o Always uses advanced language and vocabulary. o Is extremely interesting to the reader. o Uses a variety of advanced transition words.</td>
<td>o Always uses advanced English grammar. o May contain a few small errors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>o Uses well-chosen, on-topic evidence to develop the topic. o Correctly explains the evidence. o Shows an understanding of the topic.</td>
<td>o Contains an on-topic introduction. o Uses organization to help the reader understand. o Connects ideas. o Contains an on-topic conclusion.</td>
<td>o Always uses appropriate grade-level language and vocabulary. o Is interesting to the reader. o Uses a variety of appropriate transition words.</td>
<td>o Always uses correct grade-level English grammar. o May contain some small and/or big errors but they do not confuse the reader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>o Uses some on-topic evidence to develop the topic. o Some evidence may be wrong or is repeated. o Shows an incomplete understanding of the topic.</td>
<td>o Contains an incomplete introduction. o Tries to use organization but is hard to follow some times. o Connects some ideas. o Contains an incomplete conclusion.</td>
<td>o Uses basic language and vocabulary. o Is of little interest to the reader. o Uses basic or repeats transition words.</td>
<td>o Uses some correct English grammar. o Contains many errors that often confuse the reader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>o Does not include evidence to develop the topic or the evidence is off-topic. o Evidence is wrong or repeated. o Shows little or no understanding of the topic.</td>
<td>o Contains an irrelevant or no introduction. o Uses unclear organization making ideas hard to follow most of the time. o Fails to connect ideas and lacks focus. o Contains an irrelevant or no conclusion.</td>
<td>o Uses little or no grade-level language and vocabulary. o Is uninteresting to the reader. o Uses few or no transition words.</td>
<td>o Does not use correct English grammar. o Contains many errors that make it almost impossible to understand.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 4     | o Uses plenty of well-chosen, on-topic evidence to support the opinion.  
      | o Fully and correctly explains the evidence.  
      | o Connects the evidence to the opinion.  
      | o Shows a clear understanding of the topic. | o Contains an interesting and on-topic introduction.  
      | o States and keeps a clear and advanced opinion.  
      | o Uses advanced organization to help the reader understand.  
      | o Excellently connects ideas to the opinion.  
      | o Contains an interesting and on-topic conclusion. | o Always uses advanced language and vocabulary.  
      | o Is extremely interesting to the reader.  
      | o Uses a variety of advanced transition words. | o Always uses advanced English grammar.  
      | o May contain a few small errors. |
| 3     | o Uses well-chosen, on-topic evidence to support the opinion.  
      | o Correctly explains the evidence.  
      | o Connects the evidence to the opinion.  
      | o Shows an understanding of the topic. | o Contains an on-topic introduction.  
      | o States and keeps a clear opinion.  
      | o Uses organization to help the reader understand.  
      | o Connects ideas to the opinion.  
      | o Contains an on-topic conclusion. | o Always uses appropriate grade-level language and vocabulary.  
      | o Is interesting to the reader.  
      | o Uses a variety of appropriate transition words. | o Always uses correct grade-level English grammar.  
      | o May contain some small and/or big errors but they do not confuse the reader. |
| 2     | o Uses some on-topic evidence to support the opinion.  
      | o Some evidence may be wrong or is repeated.  
      | o Connects some evidence to the opinion.  
      | o Shows an incomplete understanding of the topic. | o Contains an incomplete introduction.  
      | o States a weak opinion.  
      | o Tries to use organization but is hard to follow some times.  
      | o Connects some ideas to the opinion.  
      | o Contains an incomplete conclusion. | o Uses basic language and vocabulary.  
      | o Is of little interest to the reader.  
      | o Uses basic or repeats transition words. | o Uses some correct English grammar.  
      | o Contains many errors that often confuse the reader. |
| 1     | o Does not include evidence to support the opinion or the evidence is off-topic.  
      | o Evidence is wrong or repeated.  
      | o Evidence does not support the opinion.  
      | o Shows little or no understanding of the topic. | o Contains an irrelevant or no introduction.  
      | o States an unclear opinion.  
      | o Uses unclear organization making ideas hard to follow most of the time.  
      | o Fails to connect ideas to opinion and lacks focus.  
      | o Contains an irrelevant or no conclusion. | o Uses little or no grade-level language and vocabulary.  
      | o Is uninteresting to the reader.  
      | o Uses few or no transition words. | o Does not use correct English grammar.  
      | o Contains many errors that make it almost impossible to understand. |