

Utah Compose Opinion/Argument Essay Rubric: Student Version

Writing Analysis	5	4	3	2	1
Development of Ideas	<p>This essay is clear, controlled and focused, and is appropriate for the task, purpose, and audience.</p> <p>Your essay has balance and exhibits good control of connections between ideas.</p> <p>You have expressed your ideas in a convincing manner by providing ample support.</p> <p>Your essay holds the reader's attention through details, facts, examples, anecdotes, and description that enrich your main idea.</p> <p>You have used appropriate literary strategies or techniques to develop your opinion/argument essay.</p> <p>You have an introduction and concluding statement or section that are effectively connected to the rest of the essay.</p> <p>An effective introduction and conclusion leave the reader with a sense of completeness.</p>	<p>The writing is clear, focused, and generally appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.</p> <p>You have included an introduction and a conclusion that are clearly connected to the rest of the essay.</p> <p>You have used appropriate literary strategies or techniques to develop your opinion/argument.</p> <p>You have used enough support to develop your ideas.</p> <p>Your essay holds the reader's attention through reasons, facts, examples, details/and or description that support your opinion.</p> <p>Your reasons and supporting details are logical and clearly related to your opinion/claim.</p>	<p>Do you have an introduction and concluding statement or paragraph that are clearly connected to the rest of the essay?</p> <p>Does your essay fit its task, purpose, and audience?</p> <p>Have you addressed and refuted the counter-claim?</p> <p>Have you supported your opinion/claim with logical reasons?</p> <p>Have you used appropriate literary strategies or techniques to develop your opinion/argument?</p> <p>Have you used enough supporting reasons, facts, examples, details, and/or descriptions to develop your opinion/argument?</p> <p>Are your supporting facts, details, and examples clearly related to your task?</p>	<p>Have you done more than just list or repeat the reasons and/or details in your argument?</p> <p>Have you made your claim clear?</p> <p>Have you used clear reasons to support your claim?</p> <p>Does your essay fit its task, purpose, and audience?</p> <p>Does your essay have sufficient information, explanation, details and/or description to support your reasons?</p>	<p>Does your essay fit its task, purpose, and audience?</p> <p>Have you stated a clear claim?</p> <p>Have you used reasons and details to support your claim?</p> <p>Have you written enough to fully answer the prompt?</p>
Organization	<p>Your essay is appropriate for its task, purpose and audience.</p> <p>The transitions or connections between your ideas are seamless and smooth.</p> <p>Your essay is carefully organized with well-placed details from beginning to end.</p> <p>The writing is well balanced and moves along smoothly.</p> <p>The organization of this essay enhances and highlights the main idea.</p> <p>You have a clear introduction and conclusion that connect your ideas and enhance your opinion.</p> <p>Your essay is carefully organized with well-placed details from beginning to end.</p>	<p>The details are generally well-placed and relevant to the argument.</p> <p>The transitions between your ideas are appropriate and work well.</p> <p>The writing has balance and progresses along at an even pace.</p> <p>Your essay is generally appropriate for its task, purpose, and audience.</p> <p>Your introduction and conclusion are functional and connected to your argument.</p>	<p>Does the placement and relevance of your details cause any confusion?</p> <p>Does your essay progress logically from one idea to the next?</p> <p>Have you worked on making the transitions or connections between your ideas better?</p> <p>Have you written a clear introduction and conclusion to your essay?</p> <p>Is your essay appropriate for its task, purpose, and audience?</p> <p>Can you put any of your details in a different place to make your writing more organized?</p> <p>Does the order of your essay make sense?</p> <p>Do all your paragraphs help explain and support your opinion/argument?</p>	<p>Are there connections and transitions between your ideas?</p> <p>Are your details relevant and do they contribute to your argument?</p> <p>Can the reader easily follow what you are saying?</p> <p>Did you review the task, purpose, and audience?</p> <p>Have you attempted to write an introduction and a conclusion that are related to the main ideas in your essay?</p>	<p>Did you plan for your essay with an introduction and a conclusion?</p> <p>Do your ideas support your opinion/argument?</p> <p>Have you used transitions to connect your ideas?</p> <p>Have you written enough to make your opinion/argument clear?</p>

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Style	<p>You speak directly to the audience through expressive and engaging writing. The language is natural and brings the topic to life.</p> <p>The reader feels a strong sense of interaction with the writer and senses the person behind the words.</p> <p>You have established and maintained a consistent, individual style.</p>	<p>The tone is appropriate and fits the topic, purpose and audience.</p> <p>You have established and maintained a generally formal style.</p> <p>Your argument is compelling.</p> <p>Your personal view is present throughout the entire essay.</p> <p>Your writing seems genuine and you appear to be involved in the topic.</p>	<p>Is your argument compelling?</p> <p>Have you continued with the same opinion and reasons throughout the whole essay?</p> <p>Is your essay appropriate to your task, purpose, and audience?</p> <p>Is your essay written in a formal style?</p> <p>Is your personal viewpoint present throughout the entire argumentative essay?</p>	<p>Does your essay give a sense of what you really think about the topic?</p> <p>Does your essay have conviction or individuality?</p> <p>Have you written your essay with your task, purpose, and audience in mind?</p> <p>Is your essay written in a formal style?</p>	<p>Does your argument have a sense of personal feeling behind it?</p> <p>Does your essay reflect your own specific viewpoint or ideas?</p> <p>Have you thought carefully about your reasons for writing about this topic?</p> <p>Have you written your essay in a formal style?</p>
Word Choice	<p>The words convey the intended message in an interesting and precise way.</p> <p>The words are specific and accurate.</p> <p>Your vocabulary is vivid, natural, and not overdone.</p> <p>Excellent word choice gives this essay power.</p>	<p>Literary devices such as figurative language make your essay more engaging.</p> <p>Your word choice makes your writing interesting but easy to understand.</p> <p>Your word choices make your essay strong.</p> <p>Your words are usually specific and accurate.</p> <p>Your words convey the message in a realistic and reasonable way.</p>	<p>Are your words precise?</p> <p>Have you avoided using clichés, redundancies, and overused phrases?</p> <p>Have you used literary devices/figurative language to enhance your writing?</p> <p>Have you used strong, interesting, and unusual words rather than common or overused ones?</p>	<p>Are the words in your essay interesting and uncommon?</p> <p>Do you use a variety of words and phrases or do you repeat the same ones?</p> <p>Have you chosen the correct words to express your ideas and to make the meaning of each sentence clear?</p> <p>Have you chosen words that are specific?</p>	<p>Are the words you have used specific?</p> <p>Are you sure that the verbs, nouns, and adjectives you used are the correct ones?</p> <p>Have you chosen the correct words to express your ideas and to make the meaning of each sentence clear?</p>
Sentence Fluency	<p>The writing in this essay is very natural and fluent.</p> <p>The amount of sentence variety present in this essay makes the text interesting.</p> <p>The writing is concise and effective in conveying your meaning.</p>	<p>Check to be sure your grammar is completely correct.</p> <p>Check to make sure your essay contains a variety of sentence structures and lengths.</p> <p>Check to make sure your sentences are all well-crafted.</p> <p>Check to make sure your writing moves along at a consistent pace.</p>	<p>Are your sentences, both simple and complex, without errors?</p> <p>Do the sentences flow smoothly one after the other?</p> <p>Have you made sure that you have no awkward sentences to slow a reader down?</p> <p>Have you made sure that you have used a variety of sentence types and lengths?</p>	<p>Are your sentences easy to understand?</p> <p>Have you made sure that sentence fragments or awkward sentences do not disrupt the flow of your essay?</p> <p>Have you used different types of sentences instead of just simple sentences?</p>	<p>Are your sentences smooth rather than choppy or awkward?</p> <p>Have you ensured that there are no run-ons, fragments, and/or comma splices?</p> <p>Have you written clear sentences rather than confusing one?</p>
Conventions	<p>Mistakes in spelling, grammar, and punctuation are few, if any, and they do not make it difficult for the reader to understand your essay.</p> <p>This essay is long enough and is written at a high level, showing that you use grammar, punctuation, and capitalization to make your writing more exciting.</p> <p>You have shown that you understand spelling, punctuation, and capitalization rules.</p>	<p>Check to make sure there are no errors in spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.</p> <p>Check to make sure you have used paragraphs correctly.</p> <p>Check to make sure your subjects and verbs agree.</p>	<p>Have you made sure your spelling is correct?</p> <p>Have you used paragraphs correctly?</p> <p>Have you written enough to show that you have control of spelling, punctuation, and/or capitalization?</p>	<p>Can the reader understand your words and sentences?</p> <p>Do your subjects and verbs agree?</p> <p>Have you made sure that your spelling, punctuation, and capitalization are correct?</p>	<p>Have you made sure your spelling is correct?</p> <p>Have you used commas, periods, question marks, and exclamation marks throughout your essay?</p> <p>Have you used correct grammar throughout your essay?</p>