

# *Georgia Independent Christian Arts & Academics*

## Argumentative Essay Score Sheet

<b>Contestant #</b>
<b>Judge's Name</b>

*Judge may wish to use Part 1 (total effect) for ranking the essays, if needed*

Rating Criteria	Rating	Score	General Comments
<b>Total Effect</b> Has the writer created an effective response to the question he/she chose?	<b>1-16</b>		
<b><i>Analysis of the Elements of the Essay (up to 7 points each)</i></b>			
<b>Content</b> <b>Focus</b> -Is the essay focused on the question? Does the write address the significant issues raised in the question?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Originality</b> -Does the writer explore the question in an original way? Does he/she avoid clichés and shallow arguments?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Argumentation</b> -Does the writer effectively use tools of argumentation (logic; tone; order, etc.)? Does he/she avoid errors of logic (non-sequitur, circular reasoning, either-or fallacy, etc.)?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Levels of Generality</b> -Does the writer alternate appropriately between general (or abstract) statements and specific (or concrete) illustrations, amplifications and proofs?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Organization</b> <b>Thesis</b> -Does the essay have a unifying thesis?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Paragraphs</b> -Does each paragraph develop a central idea stated in a topic sentence?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Coherence</b> -Does the essay follow a clear plan of development? Do the paragraphs fit together logically and smoothly to develop the thesis?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Structure</b> -Does the essay have a clear and effective beginning, middle and end?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Style</b> <b>Sentence Variety</b> -Does the writer vary the structure of his/her sentences?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Diction</b> -Are the writer's word choices precise, original and unpretentious?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Voice</b> -Does the writer establish a consistent, appropriate voice? Is the tone effective?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Mechanics</b> -Keeping in mind that the contestant writes without benefit of a dictionary or time for revision, do you find that he/she has good command of grammar, punctuation and spelling?	<b>1-7</b>		
<b>Total Rating Score</b>	<b>100%</b>		
<b>Additional Comments:</b>			