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| Format | 5) Meets StandardStudent writes a 6-paragraph essay. Essay includes an intro paragraph, four body paragraphs, and a conclusion. | 3) Approaches StandardStudent writes a 3-paragraph essay. Essay includes an intro, body, and conclusion. The student fails to break up the body paragraphs. | 1) Falls Well Short of StandardStudent makes no attempt to write a well-constructed essay. |
| Claim | 5) Meets StandardThe student clearly states their claim. The reader is able to clearly tell what side of the argument the writer comes out on. | 3) Approaches StandardThe student does not clearly state their claim. The reader is not able to clearly tell what side of the argument the writer comes out on. | 1. Falls Well Short of Standard

The student makes no attempt to state their claim. The reader is left in the dark as to what side of the argument the writer comes out on. |
| Supporting Detail | 10) Meets StandardThe student references three supporting details to defend their argument. One individual paragraph is devoted to each supporting detail. | 5) Approaches StandardThe student references 1-2 supporting details to defend their argument. | 3) Falls Well Short of StandardThe student makes no attempt to defend their argument with supporting details. |
| Counter Claim | 5) Meets StandardThe student fairly and fully references one opposing argument. One individual paragraph is devoted to the counter claim. | 3) Approaches StandardThe student attempts to fairly and fully reference one opposing argument, but falls short. | 1. Falls Well Short of Standard

The student makes no attempt to reference one opposing argument. |
| Historical Accuracy | 10) Meets StandardThe student maintains historical accuracy throughout their essay. | 5) Approaches StandardThe student attempts to maintain historical accuracy throughout their essay, but falls short. | 3) Falls Well Short of StandardThe student makes no attempt to maintain historical accuracy throughout their essay. |
| Mechanics | 5) Meets StandardThe student make few to no errors in terms of spelling, grammar, etc. | 3) Approaches StandardThe student frequently makes errors in terms of spelling, grammar, etc. | 1) Falls Well Short of StandardThe student makes several errors in terms of spelling, grammar, etc. These errors are so frequent that they distract the reader from the writing. |

Suggested format to be followed: (each bullet point denotes a new paragraph)

* Introduction
* Supporting Detail 1
* Supporting Detail 2
* Supporting Detail 3
* Counter Claim
* Conclusion