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| RUBRIC |  |  |  |  | SCORE |
| **Introduction**  **Conclusion** | Well-developed introductory  paragraph contains detailed  background, a clear explanation or definition of the problem, and a thesis  statement  Conclusion summarizes the main topics without repeating previous sentences; writer’s opinions and suggestions for change are logical and well thought out. | Introductory paragraph contains some background information and states the problem, but does not explain using  details. States the thesis of the paper.  Conclusion summarizes main topics. Some suggestions for change are evident. | Introduction states the thesis but does not adequately explain the  background of the problem. The problem is stated, but lacks detail.  Conclusion summarizes main topics, but is repetitive. No suggestions for change and/or opinions are included. | Thesis and/or problem is vague or unclear. Background details are a  seemingly random collection of information, unclear, or not related to the topic.  Conclusion does not adequately summarize the main points. No suggestions for change or  opinions are included. | \_\_\_\_/20 |
| **Body Paragraphs**  Arguments  Evidence  Reasoning  Counter | Three main points are well developed with supporting details.  Counter Argument  acknowledges the opposing view and refutes it. | Three or more main points are present but may lack detail and development in  one or two.  Counter Argument  acknowledges the opposing view but doesn’t refute it. | Three or more main points, but all lack development. Counter Argument is missing and/or vague. | Less than three main points,  with poor development of  ideas.  Counter Argument is missing. | \_\_\_\_/40 |
| **Organization** | Logical, compelling progression of ideas in essay; clear structure which enhances and showcases the central idea or theme and moves the reader through the text. Organization flows so  smoothly the reader hardly thinks about it. Effective, mature, graceful transitions  exist throughout the essay. | Overall, the paper is logically developed. Progression of ideas in  essay makes sense and moves the reader easily through the text. Strong transitions exist throughout and add to the essay’s coherence | Progression of ideas in essay is awkward, yet moves the reader  through the text without too much confusion. The writer sometimes lunges ahead too quickly or spends too much time on details that do not matter. Transitions appear  sporadically, but not equally throughout the essay. | Arrangement of essay is unclear and illogical. The writing lacks a clear sense of direction. Ideas, details or events seem strung  together in a loose or random fashion; there is no identifiable internal structure and readers  have trouble following the writer’s line of thought. Few, forced transitions in the essay or no transitions are present. | \_\_\_\_/10 |
| **Works Cited** | Source material is smoothly  integrated into the text. All sources are accurately documented in the desired format both in the text and on  the Works Cited page. | Source material is used.  All sources are accurately documented, but a few are not in the desired format.  Some sources lack credibility. | Source material is used, but integration may be awkward. All sources are accurately documented, but many are not in the desired format or lack credibility. | Lacks sources and/or sources are not accurately documented. Format is incorrect for all sources. | \_\_\_\_/20 |
| **Mechanics** | Sentence structure is correct.  Punctuation and capitalization are correct. | Sentence structure is generally correct.  Some awkward sentences do appear. There are one or two errors in punctuation and/or capitalization. | Work contains structural  weaknesses and grammatical errors.  There are three or four errors in punctuation and/or capitalization. | Work contains multiple  incorrect sentence structures. There are four or more errors in punctuation and/or capitalization. | \_\_\_\_/10 |

TOTAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/100