6.05 Closing Arguments Rubric

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Excellent** | **Good** | **Needs Improvement** | **Poor** | **Score / Comments** |
| **Attention Grabber / Hook** | The introductory paragraph has a strong hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience. This could be a strong statement, a relevant quotation, statistic, or question addressed to the reader.  **(10 points)** | The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber, but it is weak, rambling or inappropriate for the audience.  **(8 points)** | The author has an interesting introductory paragraph but the connection to the topic is not clear.  **(6 points)** | The introductory paragraph is not interesting or relevant to the topic.  **(4 points)** |  |
| **The Claim / Position** | The position statement provides a clear, strong statement of the author's position on the topic.  **(10 points)** | The position statement provides a clear statement of the author's position on the topic.  **(8 points)** | A position statement is present, but does not make the author's position clear.  **(6 points)** | There is no position statement.  **(4 points)** |  |
| **Closing Paragraph** | The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader solidly understanding the writer's position. Effective restatement of the position statement begins the closing paragraph.  **(10 points)** | The conclusion is recognizable. The author's position is restated within the first two sentences of the closing paragraph.  **(8 points)** | The author's position is restated within the closing paragraph, but not near the beginning.  **(6 points)** | There is no conclusion - the paper just ends.  **(4 points)** |  |
| **Mechanics** | Author makes no errors in grammar and/or spelling that distract the reader from the content.  **(10 points)** | Author makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.  **(8 points)** | Author makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.  **(6 points)** | Author makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.  **(4 points)** |  |
| **Transitions** | A variety of thoughtful transitions are used. They clearly show how ideas are connected  **(10 points)** | Transitions show how ideas are connected, but there is little variety  **(8 points)** | Some transitions work well, but some connections between ideas are fuzzy.  **(6 points)** | The transitions between ideas are unclear or nonexistent.  **(4 points)** |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  |  | **\_\_\_\_\_/ 50 Points** |