**Literary Essay ~ THEME**

**Argument Writing (W.8.1): Write arguments to support claims, organized with clear reasons and relevant evidence, while maintaining a formal style.**

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| **Proficient** | **4.0 (100%)** | * The writer introduced the essay in a **creative way** and introduced the position with a **clear claim**
* The writer **logically, using relevant evidence**, brought out the aspects of the argument that were **most significant** to the audience and overall purpose.
* The writer used words, phrases and clauses to **transition**, create **cohesion** and clarify relationships between ideas
* The writer **acknowledged and distinguished** the claim from alternative claims and interpretations, while maintaining a clear position.
* In the conclusion, the writer described the **significance of the argument for stakeholders** or offered additional insights, implications, questions or challenges
 |
| **3.5 (93%)** | In addition to score 3.0 performance, partial success at score 4.0 content |
| **Emerging** | **3.0****(86%)** | * The writer introduced the argument in a somewhat creative way and introduced the position with a claim.
* The writer develops the argument in a somewhat effective way, although at times the overall purpose is not clear.
* The writer could continue to draw connections and transition more smoothly between ideas.
* The writer was somewhat fair to both sides of the argument.
* The conclusion brings the essay together nicely, but could do a bit more to leave the reader thinking.
 |
| **2.5****(82%)** | No major errors or omissions regarding score 2.0 content, and partial success at score 3.0 content |
| **Basic** | **2.0****(76%)** | * There is an introduction, but it does not hook the reader or lead the reader into the claim. The claim is present, but it needs to be a lot clearer.
* There are times when the reasoning and development of the argument is unclear or not fully supported.
* Organization and transitions do not always clearly lead the reader through the ideas.
* The writer did not fully address both sides of the argument.
* The conclusion is somewhat repetitive, without really leaving the reader thinking.
 |
| **1.5****(72%)** | Partial success at score 2.0 content, but major errors or omissions regarding score 3.0 content |
| **Below Basic** | **1.0****(66%)** | With help, partial success at score 2.0 content and score 3.0 content |
| **0.5****(62%)** | With help, partial success at score 2.0 content, but not at score 3.0 content |
| **0.0****(59%)** | Even with help, no success |

**Literature- Key Ideas and Details: Cite textual evidence to analyze a text, support a theme, develop relationships between story elements and write an objective summary (RL.8.1-RL.8.3)**

|  |  |  |
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| **Proficient** | **4.0 (100%)** | * The writer provides **context** for the claim with a brief objective summary.
* The writer laid out a **sophisticated claim** about **theme**, defining and explaining terms for the reader.
* The evidence most **strongly supports** the claim.
* The evidence is **analyzed** in a way that **moves the reader toward a broader understanding** of the text and the theme.
 |
| **3.5 (93%)** | In addition to score 3.0 performance, partial success at score 4.0 content |
| **Emerging** | **3.0****(86%)** | * The writer somewhat provides a context for the claim.
* The writer laid out a claim, but it could be more specific or more clearly defined.
* The writer supports the claim with evidence, although some evidence could be stronger.
* The evidence is not always analyzed or connected to the overall claim.
 |
| **2.5****(82%)** | No major errors or omissions regarding score 2.0 content, and partial success at score 3.0 content |
| **Basic** | **2.0****(76%)** | * The writer does not summarize the story in a way that leads to the claim.
* The claim needs to be clearer and more specific to the story.
* The writer needs to use more evidence to support the claim.
* The writer includes some evidence, but needs to do a lot more to show how it connects to the overall claim.
 |
| **1.5****(72%)** | Partial success at score 2.0 content, but major errors or omissions regarding score 3.0 content |
| **Below Basic** | **1.0****(66%)** | With help, partial success at score 2.0 content and score 3.0 content |
| **0.5****(62%)** | With help, partial success at score 2.0 content, but not at score 3.0 content |
| **0.0****(59%)** | Even with help, no success |