

**Persuasive Research Essay Rubric**

SCORE	TRAITS
(10 POINTS)	<p><b>CLEAR, WELL ORGANIZED, WELL DEVELOPED IDEAS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main idea (<b>thesis</b>) is <b>clear</b> and <b>specific</b>.</li> <li>• Each paragraph has a <b>clear topic</b> and <b>concluding sentence</b>; <b>content is appropriate</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Topic sentences</b> in body paragraphs clearly <b>relate to main idea</b> (thesis); <b>depth of content</b> is appropriate.</li> <li>• <b>Supporting details</b> clearly <b>relate to topic sentences</b>; <b>concrete detail/commentary</b> used well.</li> <li>• <b>Reader concerns and counter arguments (cons)</b> are <b>anticipated</b> and <b>addressed</b> if appropriate.</li> <li>• <b>Transitions</b> are used effectively.</li> <li>• <b>Introduction, body, conclusion</b> provide logical sequencing of ideas, leading to <b>understandable opinion</b> that <b>convinces or persuades reader to accept a particular point of view or take a specific action</b>.</li> </ul>
(10 POINTS)	<p><b>WRITING STYLE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Varied sentence patterns</b> (intro. participial phrase, appositive phrase, intro. adv. clause, intro. prep. phrase, two independent clauses separated by semicolon, etc.)</li> <li>• <b>Word choice</b> includes <b>strong verbs</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Vague, overused, repetitive language is avoided</b> (a lot, very, great, really, there is, there are, etc.).</li> <li>• <b>Vocabulary</b> choice is <b>interesting</b> and <b>thoughtful</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Passive voice</b> and <b>be verbs</b> are not overused.</li> <li>• <b>Simile, metaphor, and personification</b> are included.</li> </ul>
(10 POINTS)	<p><b>GRAMMAR, USAGE, MECHANICS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No <b>run-on sentences</b></li> <li>• No <b>sentence fragments</b></li> <li>• <b>Pronoun/antecedent agreement</b></li> <li>• No use of I, you, me, my, your, myself, yourself</li> <li>• <b>Subject/verb agreement</b>; correct <b>verb tense</b> usage</li> <li>• <b>Punctuation</b> is correct; <b>capitalization</b> is correct.</li> <li>• <b>Spelling</b> is <b>error free</b>; no <b>contractions</b> are used.</li> </ul>
(10 POINTS)	<p><b>MLA DOCUMENTATION / PLAGIARISM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information from bibliography sources is <b>cited properly</b>.</li> <li>• <b>All paraphrased information except "common" or "general" knowledge is cited parenthetically</b>.</li> <li>• <b>All quotations are cited parenthetically</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Text is in the student's own words</b>; paper is <b>typed</b>.</li> </ul>
(10 POINTS)	<p><b>RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Appropriate sources</b> were used.</li> <li>• <b>Bibliography card</b> format is correct.</li> <li>• Research <b>notes</b> are <b>highlighted (or underlined) on photocopies</b> of source <b>OR</b> are on <b>notecards</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Outline</b> data is logical and clear; outline is correct.</li> <li>• <b>Title page</b> is in proper form.</li> <li>• <b>Works Cited Page</b> is in proper form; <b>5 or more citations</b> have been made in the body of the paper.</li> </ul>

**Total Score out of 50 points:** \_\_\_\_\_