Argumentative Essay Checklist

Structure

\_\_\_ at least 4 paragraphs

 introductory paragraph contains:

 \_\_\_ a hook or addresses the topic’s issues

 \_\_\_ background or current newsworthy events and/or assumptions

 \_\_\_ thesis - what they are arguing or trying to convince us to believe

 \_\_\_ at least two areas to be explored in body paragraphs

 body paragraphs contain:

 \_\_\_ a topic sentence and transition words to

 connect it to previous paragraph

 \_\_\_ evidence from texts in the form of facts, statistics, and expert

 testimony that support your side of the argument

 \_\_\_ a paragraph addressing and the opposite of the argument

 \_\_\_ properly cited information from texts in the form of in-text

 citations (author’s last name, page or paragraph number)

 \_\_\_ quotations are embedded or integrated and do not stand alone

 \_\_\_ transition words to connect ideas/sentences within the

 paragraphs

 concluding paragraph contains:

 \_\_\_ key ideas from the essay (review topic sentences)

 \_\_\_ thesis re-stated in different words

 \_\_\_ further implications or future issues

 \_\_\_ final impression or image left to the reader

Overall essay contains:

 \_\_\_ insightful and interpretive understanding of texts which

demonstrates critical thinking

 \_\_\_ sophisticated language (diction, word choice)

 \_\_\_ correct spelling, grammar and punctuation

 \_\_\_ no use of the first person (*I, you, we)* and no personal opinions