

Name _____ Section _____ Date _____

LT: I can understand the features of a good essay.

Do Now: Do Now Quiz!

Argument Essay

Part 1: Brainstorm

Free write:

List 3-4 things that are covered by the United States Budget.

Why do people go into space? _____

Part 2: Essay Overview

Your job is to write a 3-4 paragraph essay that agrees or disagrees with the following statement:

Space exploration is a waste of the United States Budget.

The steps to writing a good, solid essay are the following

Step 1: Develop a claim

Do you agree or disagree with the claim? Explain.

Step 2: Find reliable, specific evidence to support your claim.

Step 3: Develop your analysis. Does each piece of evidence support your claim? Explain how.

Step 4: Write a rough draft

Step 5: Peer edit.

Step 6: Write final draft.

Criteria	3	2	1	0
Rough Draft	A rough draft or thorough outline was handed in on time and was used to improve the final paper.	A rough draft or outline was handed in, though it may have been late OR On time, but lacking detail.	A poor quality rough draft or outline was submitted.	There was no rough draft or outline submitted.
Organization	There is a clear, specific claim. The body paragraphs each have topic and concluding sentences and relate to the claim.	There is a claim, though it may be general or difficult to find. OR The body paragraphs do not fully match the claim, or are poorly organized.	The claim does not answer the question OR The body paragraphs are unrelated to the claim or are poorly organized to the extent that it is difficult to follow.	There is no claim OR The body paragraphs are disorganized to the extent that they make no sense.
Evidence	There are several pieces of specific, well-chosen that supports your claim. All evidence is cited.	There is evidence present, but it may not be well chosen or lack specificity OR some of it is not cited.	Evidence is extremely general and based on personal feelings/ logic rather than fact. OR None of the evidence is cited.	There is little to no attempt to include evidence.
Analysis	Evidence is fully explained, and furthers your argument in a sophisticated way.	Evidence is explained, and it is tied back to the claim.	The analysis is incorrect, overly broad, or difficult to understand.	There is little to no attempt at analysis.
Mechanics	The essay is formatted according to MLA formatting, including a works cited.	There are some errors in MLA formatting, grammar, punctuation, etc.	There is a poor attempt to format according to MLA standards or there is no works cited page.	There is no attempt at proper MLA formatting/ citation.

TOTAL: _____/15