## **Persuasive Writing Scoring Guide**

	Below Basic (1 point)	Basic (2 points)	Proficient (3 points)	Advanced (4 points)	Score
	No plan	Attempts a plan	Clear plan	Well-developed plan	
Organization	No clear position statement	Attempt at an introduction with position statement	Clear introduction with a clear position statement and a plan	Strong introduction with a strong position statement and plan	
	Reasons, details, or facts absent or do not match topic/position	Attempts some reasons, details, or facts to support the position	Good reasons, details, or facts support the position	Strong reasons, details, or facts support the position	
	No transitions; confusing transitions	Attempts some simple transitions	Simple transitions used correctly	Variety in transitions; transitions successfully connect body paragraphs	
	No examples; examples are not clear	Attempts some examples or explanations to persuade	Simple but good, clear examples or explanations to persuade	Interesting examples or explanations to persuade	
	No conclusion paragraph; conclusion paragraph is not clear	Attempts conclusion paragraph; conclusion needs work	Simple but good conclusion paragraph that fits the position	Conclusion paragraph restates position in a new and effective way	
Content	Information unclear or missing	Little information; information is repeated or wanders	All information is correct and relates to the position	All information is interesting, helps explain the position	
	No or confusing elaboration	Information shows limited understanding of the topic/position	Information shows clear understanding of the topic/position	Information shows an in-depth understanding of the topic/position	
	Body paragraphs off topic; not clear	Some attempt to develop body paragraphs to fit the topic/position; not always persuasive	Definite attempt to develop body paragraphs to fit the topic/position; tries to persuade	Well-developed body paragraphs bring topic/position to life; very persuasive	
Style	Incomplete sentences or sentences do not make sense	Short, simple sentences that often begin the same way	Good simple but complete sentences; some variety in sentences and their beginnings	Variety in sentences and in the way sentences begin	
	Little or no description; descriptions unclear	Repeated words or phrases	Basic words or phrases used correctly	Descriptive words or phrases used effectively	
	No clear purpose for the essay	Essay not developed but shows some purpose for the writing	Essay shows a clear purpose for writing	Essay leaves no doubt about the purpose for the writing	
CUPS*	Filled with errors CUPS	Several errors in CUPS	A few errors in CUPS	Hardly any errors in CUPS	
	No paragraphing	Attempts to incorporate paragraphs	Looks like an essay with several paragraphs	Clearly an essay with several well- organized paragraphs	
Neat +	Hard to read; messy	Readable but not neat	Neat and enjoyable to read	Obvious effort by the writer to make the essay easy and fun to read	
Ž	* Neat = Neatness C = Car	pitalization U = Usage P = F	Punctuation S = Spelling	Total Score (16 possible)	