**Water Scarcity**

**Persuasive Essay Rubric**

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| **Name:** | **Period:** |

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| Category | Description | Points |
| Opening Paragraph | Opening grabs the reader’s attention and is highly effective. It includes a creative hook, states the topic and the writer’s position, and has a clear thesis statement. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Topic Sentences | Each paragraph begins with a topic sentence. The topic sentence starts with a transition word and clearly states the topic of the paragraph. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Closing Sentences | Each paragraph ends with a closing sentence. The closing sentence begins with a conclusion transition word before summing up the paragraph. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Evidence | It is evident that a lot of thought and research was put into the assignment. Evidence includes direct and indirect quotes, both of which state the source (author, book, website, etc.). | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Explanations | Each example is thoroughly explained. The writer explains the importance of the evidence in a persuasive manner and stays on topic. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Persuasive Techniques*Personal Goal:* | The writer uses several persuasive techniques throughout the essay. Each technique is used correctly and creatively to further persuade the reader. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Attention to Audience | The essay demonstrates a clear understanding of the potential audience by providing evidence and reasoning that would appeal to the audience. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Word Choice*Personal Goal:* | Word choice is creative and enhances the argument. Writer uses a variety of adverbs, descriptive adjectives, vivid verbs, and WW words throughout the essay. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Sentence Variation*Personal Goal:* | Sentences are varied throughout the essay. Sentences are clear, complete, and of varying lengths. As a result, the essay flows nicely. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Closing Paragraph | The closing effectively and smoothly transitions into a conclusion. The thesis is restated clearly and final thoughts are memorable. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Grammar, Mechanics, and Spelling | There are no errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 |
| Mini-Lesson 1*Concept:* | *How will you demonstrate an understanding in your essay?* | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/2 |
| Mini-Lesson 2 |  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/2 |
| Mini-Lesson 3 |  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/2 |

Total Points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/61

\*Throughout the writing process, your classmates will be teaching mini-lessons. Choose three of the mini-lessons to include in your rubric. Choose concepts that are challenging for you. Overcoming that challenge will be rewarding! Fill in the category and description boxes for each mini-lesson.