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| **Grade** | **Organization (6)** | **Evidence/ Support (7)** | **Grammar, Mechanics, Style (6)** | **Documentation, Format (6)** |
| **A** | * Contains an introductory paragraph that gives appropriate context for understanding the argument in question
* Thesis clearly and specifically stakes out a position with respect to the argument
* Body paragraphs have topic sentences that address particular aspects of the argument; the entire paragraph explicates the topic sentence
* Conclusion sums up the point and indicates the importance of the argument and the soundness of the position developed in the essay
 | * Details and examples are effectively used to support the thesis
* Opposing points are addressed and refuted fairly and effectively
* Evidence from four valid sources is employed in a concrete and informative manner.
* The paper explains any ideas or terms that might be unfamiliar to a non-expert reader.
 | * No serious grammatical or mechanical problems
* Logical transitions connect sentences and paragraphs
* Careful attention to precision and clarity
* Avoids verbiage and redundancy
 | * Correctly cites all outside evidence using APA style
* Uses appropriate signal phrases
* Includes correctly formatted references page
* Is of an appropriate length
 |
| **B** | Slight problems:  | Slight problems:  | Slight problems: | Slight problems |
| **C** | Significant problems:  | Significant problems   | Significant problems:  | Significant problems: |
| **D** | Serious problems:  | Serious problems   | Serious problems:  | Serious problems: |
| **F** | Unacceptable college-level work:Come see me—I can help! | Unacceptable college-level work:Come see me—I can help! | Unacceptable college-level work:Come see me—I can help | Unacceptable college-level work--Come see me—I can help! |