

Opinion Essays

Element	Points
Reasoning:	
Arguments are Accurate	5
Arguments are Relevant to the conclusion	3
Arguments are Convincing	5
Language:	
Clear English (spelling, grammar, etc.)	2
Correct Use of Scientific Terms	1
Good Overall Structure	4
Total:	20

- **Arguments are Accurate** Are your arguments accurate based on what we observe/measure or based on what we have been learning in class?
- **Arguments are Relevant to the Conclusion** Is it clear how your arguments support your conclusions?
- **Arguments are convincing** Do your arguments make me believe your conclusion or make your conclusion seem reasonable? Or are there stronger arguments that you could have easily made?
- **Clear English** Is it easy to understand the mechanics of your English? Is the spelling and grammar generally correct? (Again, a few mistakes are forgivable. But don't forget to run a spell-check before you print your essay.)
- **Correct Use of Scientific Terms** As part of your argument, you will probably have to use technical terms. Using them where appropriate shows that you understand the terms and the subject matter. It also makes the argument more convincing. (But be careful: in general, *too* many technical terms can deter a reader. But you're pretty safe using them with me.)
- **Good Overall Structure** Do your sentences follow each other logically? Are the arguments easy to follow? Did you break your essay up into paragraphs, where paragraph breaks represent a change in topic?