

PERSUASIVE ESSAY – THE BEST KIND OF REPRODUCTION

NAME: _____

PERIOD: _____

DUE: _____

Introduction - LE #2: Purpose & Insight

- An opening statement makes the purpose of the letter clear. (*Opening statements do not begin, "this essay is about".*)
- General background information is provided to establish the importance and scientific context of the thesis statement. (*Include explanations of key terms or a short outline of a complicated concept. Don't assume the reader knows*)

			Student	Teacher
Deficient	4	Rarely demonstrates a sense of purpose or an understanding of the task; presents random or unclear ideas in an illogical or simplistic manner.		
Limited	8	Occasionally demonstrates a sense of purpose or an understanding of the task; presents ideas with inconsistent logic or in a simplistic manner.		
Acceptable	12	Frequently demonstrates a clear sense of purpose and an understanding of the task; presents clear and thoughtful ideas, employs logic, and identifies and/or addresses underlying questions with competence.		
Exemplary	20	Consistently demonstrates a clear sense of purpose and a thorough understanding of the task; presents sophisticated and insightful ideas, persuades with logic, and explores underlying questions and complexities with originality.		

Body - LE #1: Think Creatively

Three body paragraphs, one for each argument. Information is presented in your own words, not "cut and pasted"

			Student	Teacher
Deficient	3	Rarely uses existing knowledge imaginatively to create an original outcome.		
Limited	7	Occasionally uses existing knowledge imaginatively to create an original outcome.		
Acceptable	11	Frequently uses existing knowledge imaginatively to create an original outcome.		
Exemplary	15	Consistently uses existing knowledge imaginatively to create an original outcome.		

Supporting Information - LE #1: Acquisition & Application of Knowledge

Biological concepts for the topic are well covered.

Each argument is supported with scientific fact, not just what you feel. (your opinion doesn't matter, unless supported)

			Student	Teacher
Deficient	4	Rarely able to evaluate, synthesize, differentiate, and clarify information; and determine when and how to use information acquired.		
Limited	8	Occasionally able to evaluate, synthesize, differentiate, and clarify information; and determine when and how to use information acquired.		
Acceptable	12	Frequently able to evaluate, synthesize, differentiate, and clarify information; and determine when and how to use information		
Exemplary	20	Consistently able to evaluate, synthesize, differentiate, and clarify information; and determine when and how to use		

Conclusion - LE #2: Audience & Evidence

- *Your thoughts presented in the essay are summarized and the most important research findings are restated. The most important supporting information is restated. (What do you want the reader to remember?)*

			Student	Teacher
Deficient	3	Rarely demonstrates an awareness of audience or uses an appropriate tone; provides limited or inappropriate explanations with little or no evidence or elaboration with limited or no organization.		
Limited	7	Occasionally demonstrates an awareness of audience and/or uses an inconsistent tone; provides simplistic or insufficient explanations without adequate or accurate evidence with basic organization		
Acceptable	11	Frequently demonstrates an ability to appropriately address and respond to audience, and uses appropriate tone; provides appropriate, concise, and sufficient explanations with adequate and accurate evidence, and/or valid connections and examples with clear organization.		
Exemplary	15	Consistently engages and responds to audience, and effectively controls tone; provides appropriate, concise, and convincing explanations, detailed and accurate evidence, and/or illuminating connections and examples with cohesive organization		

Overall - LE #2: Clarity & Conventions

- Essay makes an effort to persuade the reader.
- There are no spelling errors or visible corrections. (Proofreading is required - even with spell check.)
- There are no obvious grammar or punctuation errors. (Such as the use of "their - there", and "to - too - two")
- Formatting rules were followed - printed double spaced, 12-point font, white paper, black ink with 1-inch margins.

Deficient	4	Rarely controls medium; uses rudimentary expression and shows little or no awareness of conventions of medium and genre, culminating in an unfinished product.	Student	Teacher
Limited	8	Occasionally controls medium; uses vague or clichéd expression and shows limited understanding of conventions of medium and genre, culminating in a rough finished product.		
Acceptable	12	Frequently controls medium; uses clear expression and employs conventions of medium and genre, culminating in a clean finished product.		
Exemplary	20	Consistently and effectively controls medium; uses vivid and mature expression and skillfully employs conventions of medium and genre, culminating in a highly polished finished product		
Total				
Final Score				

Essay Instructions

Write a 5 paragraph persuasive essay that argues for the best kind of reproduction.

Your first paragraph should be an introduction to your position and make clear what specific type of reproduction you are writing about. (Internal sexual, spores, binary fission, budding, etc)

The middle three paragraphs will each cover one specific argument for your decision. Make sure you include information about why your type of reproduction is better and why some other kind is worse.

Your final paragraph should be your conclusion. You should restate the key facts for your side and leave the reader no choice but to agree with you.

Points will be taken off the **Overall - LE #2: Clarity & Conventions** section if your essay does not maintain a persuasive voice. Just listing a bunch of facts will not suffice; you must convince me you are right.