

Argumentative Essays: Students will write an argumentative essay that takes a position for or against one of the following statements:

- Education should be considered a basic human right, and therefore, provided to all children by the country or state in which they live.
- The United States should assist refugees from Syria and other countries torn apart by war by allowing them into the country.
- Social media, including personal blogs, Twitter, etc provides a positive outlet for expressing views and news worldwide and is more reliable than news organizations.

Students may use quotes from Yousafzai’s book in addressing the prompt, but must have two additional sources of information. Students will complete the argumentative essay graphic organizer listing at least three reasons of support for their argument. The essay should also include a paragraph that addresses the counterclaim. As this is a formal paper, third person point-of-view should be used (not the informal first person— no use of “I”), and students should begin with an introduction that leads the reader to the thesis and essay map (the preview of main points) and end with a concluding paragraph that restates the thesis and reviews the main points. Papers should be typed, double-spaced with 1-inch margins, using Times New Roman 12 point font, with correct MLA format including heading and page numbers.

Rubric:

Graphic Organizer \_\_\_\_\_ of 15

Rough Draft \_\_\_\_\_ of 15

Content of Essay \_\_\_\_\_ of 50  
 3 points  
 Counterclaim refutation  
 introduction/conclusion

Spelling/punctuation/grammar/capitalization \_\_\_\_\_ of 20

Bonus points - use of vocabulary words (underline in essay) \_\_\_\_\_