*The Lincoln Lyceum*: Essay Evaluation Rubric

Student Name:

Judge Name:

Directions: Read the student prompt and directions. Evaluate the essay in the following areas with scores that reflect the grade level the student is entering for, ranging from 1-5 (1= poor, 2= fair, 3= good, 4= above average, and 5= outstanding).

OVERALL ARGUMENT

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| The essay is clearly focused on a central idea that is limited, specific, and unified. |
| The essay’s thesis and supporting evidence hang together and form a logical argument. |
| The essay answers the questions asked and follows the directions given. |
| Score out of 5: |

IDEAS

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| The thesis is persuasive and the logic of the arguments is sound and clear. |
| Transitions link ideas well, and thoughts are arranged so the argument flows. |
| The use of Ethos, Logos, and Pathos is effective in persuading. |
| Rhetorical devices (*i.e.*, figures of speech) support the thesis appropriately and gracefully. |
| Score out of 5: |

DEVELOPMENT

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| The introduction arouses interest and neatly ushers the reader to the topic. |
| Each paragraph progressively contributes to the whole. |
| The conclusion explains, summarizes, and applies the argument. |
| Score out of 5: |

STYLE

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| The vocabulary is accurate and beautifully conveys the ideas that frame the argument. |
| The style is simple and clear. |
| The essay has variety and exhibits lively writing. |
| Score out of 5: |

MECHANICS

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| The essay is formatted well: the layout is styled correctly and sources are cited precisely. |
| The essay’s spelling is flawless. |
| Grammar is done properly, and punctuation is used skillfully. |
| Score out of 5: |

**Average Grade (circle the correct number): 1 2 3 4** **5**

Additional comments (optional):

**Judging Sheet** Directions: After judging each essay, **total their score** and add your rankings.

Do not include a ranking for the student from your school.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Ranking | Student’s Letter | Score |
| Rank #1 |  |  |
| Rank #2 |  |  |
| Rank #3 |  |  |
| Rank #4 |  |  |
| Rank #5 |  |  |
| Rank #6 |  |  |

Written comments:

Rank 1:

Rank 2:

Rank 3:

Rank 4:

Rank 5:

Rank 6:

Explanation for your final top three rankings: