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

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

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

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

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

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.

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: