French 1A: Révision, Argumentative Practice
Writing Rubric

Nom \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Heure \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Why should someone study French?**

**Assignment**: Your friend (or someone you know) is considering studying a foreign language, but cannot choose which one to study. You are writing him/her a letter to make him/her want to take French!

Your job is to convince your friend that studying French is the best choice. The letter should list **at three benefits of studying French** with **facts supporting your reasons** why French would be worth studying. The letter will be in English.



**Purpose:** **To convince your friend** on the benefits of studying of a foreign language and that he/she should **study French**! One of the most common real life writing skills is **persuasive writing**. It is a critical skill to develop. The purpose of this assignment is to give you a chance to develop your persuasive writing skills.

**Writer’s Role**: A student who would like to convince their friend to study French.

**Audience:** Choose someone you know that isn’t studying French

**Form**: A **letter** to convince them (in **English**!). The letter should have an **introduction paragraph** (1 to 2 sentences), **a body paragraph** (at least 6 sentences)and **a conclusion** (1-2 sentences)in which you state your case and use facts and explanations to back it up. You can also include personal reasons, but need to back them up with examples.

**Procedure**:

* Sketch out your ideas of the benefits of studying a foreign language and French
* Write your rough draft. Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Read your letter aloud to yourself – is it well written?
* Give your letter to a friend to read – are there stated reasons why?
* Revise and write FINAL DRAFT. Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**You will be graded on the following**:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Explanation** | **Score** |
| Introduction | I can write an effective introduction | /6 |
| Debatable Claim | I can write an effective debatable claim | /6 |
| Formal Style | I can maintain formal style, avoid using the 1st person pronoun | /6 |
| Sources | I can use credible outside sources to support my claim.Phrases quoted from the source are accurately noted. | /6 |
| Evidence | I can clearly state how each piece of evidence supports my claim | /6 |
| Transitions and Vocabulary | I can effectively use transitions to introduce each new claim | /6 |
| Conclusion | I can write an effective conclusion that includes a restatement of my claim in different words | /6 |
|  | **Total** | **/42** |

Rough Draft Checklist:

Introduction:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you explain who you are and how you learned about the benefits of studying French

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you clearly state why you’re writing to them (“I am writing you today to…”)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you make a claim (it’s important/beneficial to study French)

Body Paragraph(s):

Reason Reason Reason

 #1 #2 #3

\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ Start with a transition: “The first reason….” “Another reason…” “Most importantly…”

\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you offer an explanation of that benefit of studying French?

\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you use evidence from the article?

Conclusion:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you summarize all three points? “Studying French can help you (argument #1), (#2) and (#3).”

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you state an opposing viewpoint? “Some people might choose not to study French because…”

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you argue the alternative viewpoint? “…however learning French is still an important skill because…”

Final Draft Checklist:

Introduction:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you explain who you are and how you learned about the benefits of studying French

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you clearly state why you’re writing to them (“I am writing you today to…”)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you make a claim (it’s important/beneficial to study French)

Body Paragraph(s):

Reason Reason Reason

 #1 #2 #3

\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ Start with a transition: “The first reason….” “Another reason…” “Most importantly…”

\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you offer an explanation of that benefit of studying French?

\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you use evidence from the article?

Conclusion:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you summarize all three points? “Studying French can help you (argument #1), (#2) and (#3).”

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you state an opposing viewpoint? “Some people might choose not to study French because…”

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you argue the alternative viewpoint? “…however learning French is still an important skill because…”