French 1B: Révision, Argumentative Practice  
Writing Rubric

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

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

**Why is it important for you to travel abroad?**

**Assignment**: West Ottawa has decided that they are going to send one student in the district to a foreign country to study abroad. The school is letting the students submit an essay detailing why they believe they should be chosen and what they would gain from the experience. The school board will choose the winner amongst the essays submitted.

You really want to live for a while in another country, and your job is to persuade the committee that you are the best choice for West Ottawa to send abroad. The letter should list **at three educational experiences** that you would gain and **research supporting why** foreign study would be worth the visit /cost of the trip. The letter will be in English.



**Purpose:** **To persuade the school board** on the benefits of study abroad and that they should **choose you**! 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 go to another country (France) for a free study abroad opportunity provided by West Ottawa.

**Audience:** The West Ottawa School Board

**Form**: A **letter** applying for the contest (in **English**!). The letter should be in **3 paragraphs** in which you introduce the topic, state your case and use facts to support your reasons. Your personal feelings are valid, but back them up with specific details and examples.

**Procedure**:

* Sketch out your ideas of the benefits of study abroad and why you should be chosen
* 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 know about the benefits of studying abroad

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

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

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 abroad?

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

Conclusion:

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you argue the alternative viewpoint? “…however is still important to study abroad because…”

Final Draft Checklist:

Introduction:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you explain who you are and how you know about the benefits of studying abroad

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

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

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 abroad?

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

Conclusion:

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did you argue the alternative viewpoint? “…however is still important to study abroad because…”