

Name _____

Class Period _____

Persuasive/Argument Essay – Checklist

Introduction

- _____ Includes a general opening statement related to the topic
- _____ Introduces/states the story title (quotation marks) and movie title (italicized or underlined) and the author/director
- _____ Introduces the situation in the story and movie to be discussed
- _____ Ends with a specific thesis that sets up the argument (beneficial vs. detrimental)
- _____ Does not use “I”

Body Paragraphs 1 and 2

- _____ Focuses on “Flowers for Algernon” or *Awakenings*
- _____ Includes a clear and specific topic sentence that sets up what the paragraph will focus on
- _____ States and discusses two reasons that support the thesis
- _____ Includes and discusses two examples to support each reason
- _____ Each point/quote/example is explained thoroughly
- _____ The writing is thorough, detailed, and specific
- _____ Includes an ending sentence
- _____ The overall paragraph is specific and completely proves the topic sentence (connected to the thesis)
- _____ The writing does not contain “I,” such as in “I think,” “In my opinion,” “I know this because,” etc.

Conclusion

- _____ Re-addresses the thesis
- _____ Sums up main points about “Flowers for Algernon”
- _____ Sums up main points about *Awakenings*
- _____ Makes a final, general statement

Essay Structure

- _____ Essay is typed using 12 point, Times New Roman/Calibri font
- _____ Margins are standard size
- _____ Name and class period is at the top of the essay
- _____ Paragraphs are indented
- _____ Story title is in quotations/Movie title is italicized or underlined
- _____ Proper nouns are capitalized
- _____ Proofread for clarity and errors (capitalization, fragments, run-ons...)