**9th Grade Literature Argument Essay**

TASK: *Write an argument essay with a two-point thesis that establishes a strong claim backed up by reasons and evidence.*

1. **Pick one of the following topics:**
   1. Yes or No: Should artificial intelligence/robots replace humans in the workplace?
   2. Yes or No: Should self-driving cars be allowed on the road?
   3. Yes or No: Do violent video games make gamers more violent?
   4. Yes or No: Should minimum wage be increased in the U.S.?
   5. Yes or No: Should college be free?
   6. Yes or No: Should college athletes get paid?
2. **Set up your paper using MLA formatting requirements (see reference guide):**
   1. 12-point Times New Roman
   2. Double spaced
   3. Header with last name and page numbers
   4. Name, teacher’s name, course name, and date in the top left corner
   5. Centered title
3. **Write your two-point thesis statement. This is your first paragraph. It must include:**
   1. A hook
   2. Clear introduction of your claim
   3. Brief introduction of your two reasons
   4. A closing sentence
4. **Write your two body paragraphs:**
   1. Each paragraph is a reason backed by cited evidence and commentary
   2. Follow the following ***CECC*** structure in reach of these paragraphs:
      1. Claim (One of your reasons)
      2. Evidence (Must be cited from a reliable source in MLA format)
         1. “This is the evidence cited as an example” (Lastname 24).
         2. You must include TWO pieces of evidence for each reason.
      3. Commentary (in your OWN words for each cited piece of evidence)
      4. Closing sentence to wrap up the paragraph
5. **Write your counterclaim paragraph with refutation.**
   1. Introduce a counterclaim using complex sentence structure (see example below)
      1. Some people argue….; however,
   2. Refute it with reasoning
   3. Back up your reasoning with cited evidence
   4. Closing sentence
6. **Write your concluding paragraph:**
   1. Restate/summarize claim and reasons in 1-2 sentences
   2. Explain why this topic is important in 1-2 sentences
   3. Describe a call-to-action in 1-2 sentences (what action should your readers take in regard to this issue/topic?)
   4. Close out with a thought-provoking question or statement in 1 sentence.
7. **Complete your works cited page**
   1. Cite every single one of your sources following your citation guide
   2. Use citationmachine.net to create your citations (copy and paste them into the document)
8. **Proofread/edit your paper**
   1. Read through it yourself
   2. Have two other people read through it
   3. Edit all grammar/spelling errors
9. **Submit to Turnitin.com after creating account in class.**

DUE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Establishing A Thesis Statement – Paragraph #1**

THESIS STATEMENT **=** *Establishes your claim and reasons on a particular topic in a clear and concise fashion. This is the basis for your entire argument essay. It needs to be easily backed up with relevant evidence.*

My argument essay topic is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

My claim \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Create a hook. A hook is an interesting or thought-provoking sentence(s) that pulls your reader into your essay.

EX) Imagine a world in which all animals were cradled in captivity. Planet Earth would no longer feel like the same place bustling place with animals in their natural habitats.

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Reason 1 (to support your claim):

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Reason 2 (to support your claim):

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Closing sentence (wrap it up and transition to your first reasoning paragraph: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**#2: CECC Body Paragraph – Reasoning and Evidence**

*C – Claim (one of your reasons)*

*E – Evidence (cited from a source to back up your reasoning)*

*C – Commentary (a statement in your own words to back up or add to your quoted/cited evidence)*

*C – Closing (a closing sentence to wrap up the paragraph)*

**Claim (Reason #1):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Evidence #1**

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**Commentary #1**

Expand on/explain the evidence in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Evidence #2**

Source: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Commentary #2**

Expand on/explain the evidence in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**#3 CECC Body Paragraph – Reasoning and Evidence**

*C – Claim (one of your reasons)*

*E – Evidence (cited from a source to back up your reasoning)*

*C – Commentary (a statement in your own words to back up or add to your quoted/cited evidence)*

*C – Closing (a closing sentence to wrap up the paragraph)*

**Claim (Reason #2):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Evidence #1**

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**Commentary #1**

Expand on/explain the evidence in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Evidence #2**

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**Commentary #2**

Expand on/explain the evidence in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**#4 Counterclaim and Refutation Paragraph**

COUNTERCLAIM: *An opposing argument/stance toward your topic. An argument someone on the other side of the topic would argue against you.*

REFUTATION: *Your reasoning and evidence used to prove that opposing argument wrong.*

\*You MUST use the complex sentence structure in the below counterclaim/refutation sentence:

Some people argue that (insert counterclaim here) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Cite/quote evidence to back up your refutation: “ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Commentary (own words) to expand on/explain evidence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Closing statement to transition out of this paragraph: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**#5 Closing Paragraph**

CALL-TO-ACTION: *What do you want your audience to DO in regard to this issue?*

Summarize your claim and two reasons in 1-2 sentences: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Describe the importance of this topic in 1-2 sentences: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Describe a call-to-action for your audience in regard to this topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Develop a thought-provoking question or statement for your final sentence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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