**Argumentative Paragraph Rubric**

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Topic Sentence** – (tells the reader what the paragraph will be all about)

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Claim** – (states **your take** on the topic – gives you something to argue)

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Evidence** – (select **two quotes** from the reading that will back up and **support/prove your claim**)

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Explanation**

(this is where you **discuss the evidence** that you provided in your own words…do not simply interpret the

evidence…discuss how it is relevant; important information that **backs up your claim**)

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Counterargument**

(this is a “counterclaim” SENTENCE OR TWO where you tell the reader that someone will not agree with

your opinion – be sure to transition in to the counterclaim statement using a CONTRAST transition word – you

can find them in the narrative essay Powerpoint presentation)

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Rebuttal**

**(**after you mention the counterclaim in your paragraph you MUST then tell the reader why the person making

the counterclaim is WRONG by explaining and proving why you are right )

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Conclusion sentence**

(your conclusion sentence is the **final punch** of the paragraph…be sure you leave the reader with something to

think about **related to your claim-**this your last chance to get the reader to take your side)

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Grammar**/punctuation/spelling/sentence structure

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **MLA format** (requirements below)

\_\_\_Times New Roman \_\_\_12 point font \_\_\_1 inch margins \_\_\_left justified \_\_\_1st pg. header/left & right

\_\_\_2nd pg. header/upper right \_\_\_double-spaced \_\_\_proper citation \_\_\_indent 5 spaces \_\_\_title

\_\_\_\_\_\_/5 **Brainstorm**

(this can be on loose leaf paper – I want to see that you weighed out both sides and listed the points that you are

going to argue. You should also list your selected quotes here as well)

**\_\_\_\_\_\_/50 = Total Score**