

Article of the Week Checklist

The article of the week is great practice for the summative assessment. Use the checklists below to ensure you have met standard.

Reader's Checklist

- I diffused the text by completing BOTH of these steps:
 - a. I underlined **all unfamiliar/unknown words**.
 - b. I wrote down **possible synonyms or definitions** for **at least two** unfamiliar words.
- I circled **at least three different transitions** used by the author.
- I wrote **at least three thoughtful comments** in the margins. "Thoughtful comments" may include:
 - paraphrasing the central idea of a section of text
 - a question you have about the content of the text
 - a comment or opinion you have about the content of the text
 - a personal connection you have to the content of the text
- After analyzing the writing prompt, I put a star next to details from the text that I can use to support my claim.

Writer's Checklist

- My topic sentence **answers the prompt** and **states a clear position** on the controversy.
- I **supported my reasoning** with at least two **relevant details** (evidence) from the text.
 - Note: You may also include include personal evidence in addition to textual evidence
- I thoroughly **explained** the evidence with **commentary**.
- I gave **credit** to the author/article when using details from the article.
- I used appropriate **transitions** to connect ideas, especially when introducing evidence and commentary.
- I avoided slang and "hallway" language to maintain an **academic tone**.
- Except when providing personal experience as evidence, I avoided "I statements" such as *I think, My opinion, etc.*
- I edited my writing to avoid spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors.
- I thought about my reader and remembered that my reader is a reader of words, not a reader of minds!
 - Pro Tip: Read the paragraph out loud to someone else or ask them to read it out loud to you. You'll quickly discover parts that lack clarity!

Reading Skills Rubric

<i>Points</i>	<i>Key reading skills</i>	<i>Teacher Comments</i>
Y S N	Did you diffuse the text by underlining unknown words and writing possible synonyms for at least two of them?	
Y S N	Did you correctly identify a variety of transitions?	
Y S N	Did you demonstrate an understanding of the text by writing thoughtful comments in the margins?	
Y S N	Did you identify relevant evidence in the text?	

Overall: BeS NS AS ES

writing Skills Rubric

<i>Points</i>	<i>Key elements of an argumentative paragraph</i>	<i>Teacher Comments</i>
Y S N	Does the topic sentence answer the prompt and state a clear position on the controversy?	
Y S N	Do you support your reasoning with relevant textual evidence and clear, meaningful commentary?	
Y S N	Is your paragraph coherent - with appropriate transitions to connect ideas, and sentences that make sense to the reader?	
Y S N	Is the paragraph academic in tone and mostly free of spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors?	

Overall: BeS NS AS ES