**Position Paper (convincing argument) – ELA B30 Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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|  |  | **Fully meeting expectations, with enriched understanding (EU)** | **Fully meeting grade level expectations (FM)** | **Mostly meeting grade level expectations (MM)** | **Not yet meeting grade level expectations (NY)** |
| **Message/Meaning** | **Focus maintained on defensible position** | You consistently and confidently focus on a defensible position. It is difficult to determine your personal position, because you support your chosen position with determination. You are clear about the elements necessary to defend or attack and use the elements with great effect. You show great engagement in your chosen issue and this comes through in your voice. | You independently and clearly focus on a defensible position. You have determined the essential elements in order to defend or attack a given proposition. You feel strongly about your issue and this comes through in your voice. | With help you mostly maintain a focus on a defensible position. Spend time in the pre-writing stage, developing your focus fully. Review your purpose and audience. Consider what knowledgeable people would know about this topic – this should form the foundation of a strong argument. Share your passion! | Even with help you struggle to maintain a focus that is strong and central. Always keep your main idea in mind and build onto it. Your pre-writing should focus on this. Establish your audience and purpose before beginning. Be clear about what argument you are trying to make and be sure it is something you feel strongly about. |
| **Sound evidence and well-chosen details** | You support your argument with numerous logical and insightful details and strong, well-researched evidence that serve to expand and develop your argument in an interesting way. You show strong unity and coherence and thought-provoking emphasis. You understand multiple aspects of your topic. | You show a thorough understanding of your topic and make your argument clearly and with logical details (visual, written, auditory) and sound evidence. | With help you use some details and evidence to support your position. Once you decide on your argument, how can you add details to support it? Details should defend your message and give emphasis to certain aspects. It should be very clear that you understand your topic fully. | With much help you support your argument with a few details and evidence. Think about how you can prove your point using images, details and examples from other sources. What do you want to emphasize? How can you do this? How can you build up your knowledge and confidence? |
| **Organization and Coherence** | **Logical and effective organization and planning** | The organization of your debate position enhances the desired effect on your audience, and clarifies the purpose and context. You have taken some risks to enhance impact. You have explored all aspects of the issue and are well prepared. You have an impactful beginning and ending and defend your position with strength and clarity. | Your position is clearly shared in a manner that is logical to its audience, purpose and context. You have spent time researching and planning. You introduce the position clearly, defend the position well (compelling the reader to act), and end with another restatement of the position. | With help you create a position that is somewhat organized to suit audience, purpose and context. Review ways that position papers could be organized. Anticipate all possibilities; that way you can address them in your paper. | You are having trouble creating a position that is organized to suit its audience, purpose and context. Use a visual organizer to help you plan. Anticipate opposing arguments. Be sure to really think about how to begin and end. |
| **Style and Language Choices** | **Inclusive and respectful language** | You are very skilled at seeing multiple perspectives on an issue or topic. You withhold judgement and present your argument respectfully and ethically, clearly researching for information and clarification. You enthusiastically seek a variety of perspectives in order to develop your position. | You are able to suspend your judgement of yourself, others and the topic of discussion. Your argument is courteous and ethical. You use fair words and qualifiers. | With reminders, you suspend your judgement and present your argument courteously and ethically most of the time. Continue to explore then benefits of more than one perspective. How can you present a position both convincingly and courteously? What are “fair” words? | You are having trouble suspending judgement and presenting a position courteously and ethically. Perhaps writing down others’ perspectives while you research will help you to reflect more and choose your words with care. |

**Feedback:**