| | 18 to 21 points | 10 to 17 points | 0 to 9 points |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Thesis, Organization and Logic** | Thesis responds to the prompt and makes a strong claim. All ideas flow logically; the argument is identifiable, reasonable, and sound. Presenters ably communicate the complexity of the question and make novel connections that illuminate the thesis. | Thesis responds to the prompt and makes a clear claim. Well organized, logical, easy to follow argument. Presenters perceive the complexity of the questions, and occasionally make insightful connections to the evidence. | Thesis is not clear or does not respond fully to the prompt. Logic may often fail, or the argument may often be unclear. Oversimplifies the questions. May also contain inconsistencies or contradictions. |

| | 17 to 21 points | 10 to 16 points | 0 to 9 points |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Depth of Understanding of the Issues** | Argument includes:<br>• A compelling explanation of how the laws will impact voting and likely election outcomes<br>• an exceptionally deep understanding of the political context<br>  o who supports and who opposes the new voting laws<br>  o what are their other political positions<br>• A compelling examination of data that reveals voting trends that one or the other side is concerned about | Argument includes:<br>• A moderate to strong explanation of how the laws will impact voting and likely election outcomes<br>• a moderate to strong understanding of the political context<br>  o who supports and who opposes the new voting laws<br>  o what are their other political positions<br>• A clear examination of data that reveals voting trends that one or the other side is concerned about | Argument includes:<br>• An ineffective to partly effective explanation of how the laws will impact voting and likely election outcomes<br>• a minimal to fair understanding of the political context<br>  o who supports and who opposes the new voting laws<br>  o what are their other political positions<br>• a poor to partly effective use of data that reveals voting trends that one or the other side is concerned about |

| | 25 to 30 points | 15 to 24 points | 0 to 14 points |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Historical and Present-day Analysis** | Adeptly uses historical and present-day information to:<br>• powerfully demonstrate how earlier voting laws' surface and underlying purposes shed light on the intentions behind today's voting laws<br>• insightfully reflect upon how President Obama's and President Trump's elections have played a role in the present voting laws issue<br>• thoughtfully explore demographic trends in the United States and their potential impact on elections<br>• eloquently explain the flaws in the opposing side's argument | Effectively uses historical and present-day information to:<br>• demonstrate how earlier voting laws' surface and underlying purposes shed light on the intentions behind today's voting laws<br>• reflect upon how President Obama's and President Trump's elections have played a role in the present voting laws issue<br>• explore demographic trends in the United States and their potential impact on elections<br>• clearly explain the flaws in the opposing side's argument | Ineffectively uses historical and present-day information to:<br>• demonstrate how earlier voting laws' surface and underlying purposes shed light on the intentions behind today's voting laws<br>• reflect upon how President Obama's and President Trump's elections have played a role in the present voting laws issue<br>• explore demographic trends in the United States and their potential impact on elections<br>• explain the flaws in the opposing side's argument |

| | 12 to 14 points | 6 to 11 points | 0 to 5 points |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Originality/ Creativity** | • Ideas represent a wide variety of important concepts from different contexts or disciplines.<br>• Ideas are combined in original and surprising ways to address the issue.<br>• Argument presentation is new, interesting and makes an original contribution that impacts people's thinking. | • Ideas represent a variety of important concepts from different contexts or disciplines.<br>• Ideas are combined in original ways to address the issue.<br>• Argument presentation is new, interesting and makes a contribution that impacts people's thinking. | • Ideas concepts from limited contexts or disciplines.<br>• Ideas are combined in ways that only reflect the thinking of others.<br>• Argument addresses the issues, but does not impact people's thinking. |

| | 12 to 14 points | 6 to 11 points | 0 to 5 points |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Presentation and Works Cited** | Facial expressions, body language, volume and voice inflection generate a strong interest and enthusiasm about the topic in others.<br>-Proper format<br>-Mix of primary and secondary sources<br>-Use of expert primary sources that enhances overall argument | Facial expressions, body language, volume and voice inflection generate an interest and enthusiasm about the topic in others.<br>-Mostly correct format/citations<br>-Overreliance on secondary sources | Facial expressions, body language, volume and voice inflection generate little interest and enthusiasm about the topic in others.<br>-Limited secondary and primary resources and/or not included |
| Total | **84 to 100 points** | **47 to 79 points** | **0 to 42 points** |