Writer’s Reference Sheet
Grade 11

Focusing

- Read the prompt.
- Think about what the prompt is asking you to do.
- Read the provided text set (articles, pictures, charts, tables, maps, graphs).
- Think about key issues in the texts that will help you fulfill the purpose of writing your argument.

Pre-writing

- Based on evidence from the texts, think of your claim(s) and supporting reasons and evidence. You may also use related personal knowledge/experiences/examples to support your argument and the evidence you extracted from the texts.
- Think of how you will counter/refute opposing claims.
- Use a pre-writing technique (brainstorming, webbing, drawing, outlining) to organize your ideas for the introduction, body paragraphs and conclusion of your essay.

Drafting

- Type your essay in the text box provided.
- Be sure to maintain a formal writing style and tone.

Reviewing

- Reread your essay to correct any errors that interfere with your ability to communicate your argument.

When writing my argument, did I…

- introduce claim(s) and establish the significance of the claim(s)?
- acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from counterclaims (alternate or opposing claims)?
- refute/counter opposing claims?
- anticipate the audience’s knowledge and concerns?
- provide relevant background information from the texts provided (using at least 2 of the provided sources)?
- maintain a clear focus on the claim(s)?
- logically sequence and organize claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence?
- support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence (facts, details, direct/indirect quotes and examples) using at least 2 of the provided sources?
- use transitional words, phrases and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationship among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence?
- provide a conclusion that supports the argument presented?