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| **M-Step 3-5 Opinion** | **MY Access! Persuasive** |
| **Organization and Purpose**The response has **a clear and effective organizational structure**, creating a sense of unity and completeness. The organization is fully sustained between and within paragraphs. The response is consistently and **purposefully focused**:* **opinion is introduced**, clearly communicated, and the **focus is strongly maintained** for the **purpose and audience**
* consistent use of **a variety of transitional strategies** to clarify the relationships between and among ideas
* **effective introduction and conclusion**
* **logical progression of ideas from beginning to end;** strong connections between and among ideas with some syntactic variety between and among ideas

**Evidence and Elaboration**The response provides thorough **elaboration of the support/evidence** for the thesis/controlling ideathat includes the **effective use of source material**. The response clearly and effectively develops ideas,using precise language:* **comprehensive evidence (facts and details) from the source material is integrated, relevant, and specific**
* **clear citations or attribution to source material**
* effective use of **a variety of elaborative techniques\***
* **vocabulary is clearly appropriate for the audience and purpose**
* effective, appropriate **style enhances content**

**Conventions**The response demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:  • adequate use of correct sentence formation, **punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling** | **Focus and Purpose/Organization**The extent to which the response establishes and **maintains an opinion/position** and a clear understanding **of purpose and audience and completes all parts of the task.*** Demonstrates a thorough and insightful understanding of the task, purpose and audience.
* **Establishes and maintains a precise opinion to argue the issue presented in the task.**
* Completes all parts of the task and may go beyond the limits of the task.
* Very effectively demonstrates a **cohesive and unified structure**, paragraphing, and **transitional strategies** to support **the logical progression of ideas** presented in the argument.
* Contains an **engaging introduction and a strong conclusion.**
* Uses effective and **skillful paragraphing and transitional strategies** throughout.

**Content Development/Elaboration/Language**The extent to which the response provides **credible support for the claim(s) and argument(s) using valid reasoning and relevant text-based evidence\* (i.e., facts, data/statistics, authoritative quotes, rhetorical questioning, anecdotes).** * Very effectively develops arguments with **logical reasoning and effectively integrates relevant, text-based evidence to support the writers claim**
* **Uses a variety of elaborative techniques.**
* Demonstrates a very effectively style, **precise control of language**, **domain-specific word choice**, and a well-**defined sense of audience**.
* **Uses well-structured and varied sentences**.

**Mechanics and Conventions** The extent to which the response demonstrates control of mechanics and conventions, including grammar, punctuation, and spelling.* **Contains few or no errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation and spelling.**
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