The Tell Tale Heart: Argumentative Essay

Directions: Is the narrator in "The Tell-Tale Heart" guilty of murder, or not guilty by reasons of insanity? Write a 5-paragraph argumentative essay in which you cite the three strongest pieces of evidence to support your position. Thoroughly explain each piece of evidence.

Argumentative Rubric	4 Exceeding Standard	3 Meeting Standard	2 Approaching Standard	1 Not Meeting Standard	Self Assessment Grade yourself!	Teacher Score
Introduction	The claim is clearly written. Essay uses questions and/or a personal story to hook the reader.	The claim is clearly written.	The claim is not clearly written.	The claim is missing.		
Reasons	Essays includes 3 or more clear reasons <u>and</u> uses quotes from the text.	Essay includes 3 or more clear reasons.	Essay includes less than 3 reasons <u>and/or</u> reasons are unclear.	Essay includes no reasons or reasons are unconnected to the claim.		
Conclusion	Summarizes all reasons given, restates the claim, and has a call to action.	Summarize all reasons given, restates the claim.	Conclusion restates the claim.	Conclusion fails to restate the claim.		
Structure	N/A	All paragraphs are at least 4 or more sentences long.	One or more paragraphs are less than 4 sentences long.	Essay is not written in paragraph form.		
Transitions	Essay includes transitions for every reason, the conclusion, and shift in examples and thinking.	Essay includes transitions for every reason and the conclusion.	Essay is missing a transition.	Essay is missing more than one transition.		
Spelling and Grammar	The essay has correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Less than 3 mistakes.	There are a few spelling, grammatical or punctuation errors, which slow the reader down and make it difficult to understand. 4-6 errors.	There are several spelling, grammatical or punctuation errors in the essay, which makes reading and understanding it challenging. 7-9 errors.	Essay has many spelling, grammar and punctuation errors, which make reading impossible/very frustrating. 9 or more errors.		