

Case Study 1: Letter to Senator or Representative

Name: _____

Evaluation Form

Turn this in with your letter. Due Monday 10/3

_____ **Argument (8 points)**

Your letter must argue either for or against GM foods should be part of the American agricultural system. You should aim to make 2-3 arguments that you can support with evidence.

_____ Statement of Arguments (3 points)

- 3-Arguments are clearly and persuasively stated; two or more arguments are presented*
- 2-Only one argument is presented; or presentation of arguments is less clear and/or persuasive*
- 1-The argument being presented is not clear.*

_____ Support of Arguments (3 points)

- 3-Arguments are supported with evidence from multiple, credible sources.*
- 2-Credible support for some arguments is provided, but for other arguments the support is minimal and/or the credibility is questionable.*
- 1-Support and/or credibility of support is extremely minimal or questionable.*
- 0-No support for arguments is provided.*

_____ Sources (2 points)

- 2-The sources for the evidence are clearly indicated in the text of the letter.*
- 1-Sources are indicated for some, but not all, evidence.*
- 0-No source information is provided*

_____ **Quality of Writing (7 points)**

Your letter must adhere to the standards of written professional English. These standards include not only correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation, but effective paragraph structure and overall organization.

_____ Spelling and Grammar (3 points)

- 3-Spelling and grammar errors are mostly absent; only 0-1 errors are present in the entire letter*
- 2-Spelling and grammar errors are more frequent; 2-3 errors are present*
- 1-Spelling and grammar errors are very frequent; >3 errors are present*
- 0-Spelling and grammar errors are so frequent that they seriously interfere with reader's ability to understand the writing*

_____ Organization (2 points)

- 2-Letter is properly organized into paragraphs; paragraphs are logically ordered; all paragraphs have topic sentences, and transitions between paragraphs are apparent and smooth*
- 1-Most of the above is present, but there are a few problems with paragraph structure*
- 0-There are frequent problems with paragraph structure and order; topic sentences and transitions are most often missing*

_____ Punctuation (2 points)

- 2-Punctuation errors are mostly absent; only 0-1 errors are present in the entire letter*
- 1-Punctuation errors are more frequent; 2-3 errors are present*
- 0-Punctuation errors are very frequent; >3 errors are present*