



Pitbulls Under Fire

Have you ever been excluded for no reason? Well, pitbulls have. Pitbulls have been feeling this pain for years and no justice has been served. People should be able to keep pitbulls. They have the right to. Many people have been influenced to think pit bulls are bad by the media (newspapers, news, politics, etc.) and unfair laws in states and countries with them even sometimes being banned altogether! Pit bulls have saved lives and they shouldn't have to put up with all this.

Many unfair laws have been passed for these cute, innocent creatures. In Ohio, a law was passed that any pitbull would be automatically included in either the dangerous or vicious category. Ohio has influenced their people by making these laws to think that pitbulls can attack at any moment and that they are heartless creatures. Most people who are against pitbulls not being banned have gone to the press to talk about it. Many states put pitbull laws up for no good reason.

Supporting these laws are the press. They overly report pitbull dog attacks. According to the ASPCA, they will only report dog attacks if it is caused by a pitbull, or if they don't know the breed, they will automatically say it was a pitbull attack even when they have no proof. Since many people wake up in the morning and read the newspaper while drinking their coffee, they are starting off the day by being influenced by opinions and sometimes fake facts.

Pitbulls aren't as bad as you hear. Pitbulls save owners' lives. In 1917-1918, a dog named Sergeant Stubby, worked in the military as a helper and a mascot. He saved countless lives along the battlefield. Another story is when a pitbull carried a baby outside of his home when after warning them about a fire from the neighbors house, he safely took the baby and the other people that were in the house to safety.

Pitbulls are being put in the spotlight for bad reasons, but it's up to us to stand up for the pitbulls everywhere. Even though some people say that pitbulls are heartless, soulless creatures, they are wrong. They are loving, cuddling creatures and most likely if they act in a mean way, it's the owners' fault for not making special precautions and raising them carefully. We need to stop blaming them for every dog attack. We need to give them fair laws. We need to stand up for ourselves and our pitbulls. We need to change. We need to give them a chance.

Argumentative Essay

Scoring Notes: Use the rubric to evaluate student responses.

	Development of Ideas	Organization	Clarity of Language	Language and Conventions
4	The response addresses the prompt and shows effective and comprehensive development of the claim using text-based evidence, clear and convincing reasoning, and/or description.	The response demonstrates coherence and clarity and a logical organization that includes an introduction and conclusion and a logical progression of ideas.	The response establishes and maintains an effective style, including precise language, descriptive words and phrases, transitional words and phrases, and domain-specific vocabulary.	The response demonstrates a command of standard English conventions consistent with effectively edited writing.
3	The response addresses the prompt and shows effective development of the topic using text-based evidence, reasoning, and/or description.	The response demonstrates some logical organization and includes an introduction and conclusion.	Some descriptive words, as well as some linking words and phrases, are used to express ideas with clarity.	The response demonstrates a command of standard English conventions, although there may be some minor errors in grammar and usage.

	Development of Ideas	Organization	Clarity of Language	Language and Conventions
2	The response addresses the prompt and shows some development of the topic but fails to use text-based evidence, reasoning, and/or description.	The response demonstrates little logical organization and includes either an introduction or a conclusion.	Few descriptive words, as well as a few linking words and phrases, are used and ideas are not expressed as clearly as possible.	The response demonstrates a command of standard English conventions, although there are major errors in grammar and usage.
1	The response does not directly address the prompt, shows no development of the topic, and fails to use text-based evidence, reasoning, and/or description.	The response demonstrates little logical organization and fails to include either an introduction or a conclusion.	No descriptive words or linking words and phrases are used and ideas are not expressed with clarity.	Errors in grammar and usage create confusion of meaning.
0	No evidence of the ability to write an argumentative essay.			

Parent Explanation Argumentative Essay

6th grade

Score 4

This essay received an overall score of 4. The writer addresses the prompt and shows effective and complete development of their claim that pitbulls should not be banned. They used evidence from reliable sources (such as ASPCA and laws passed in Ohio) and the response is organized and logical. The writer is able to use grammar correctly and consistently. They also maintain an effective style throughout the essay.