Persuasive Paper Rubric

Writer’s name:

Organization
____ Clearly states the topic of the paper and the writer’s position in the first paragraph - 
_____ Lead that gets the reader’s attention in an interesting way
_____ Transition sentences at the beginning of each paragraph (Not only is skiing a good way to get in shape, it’s also a nice way to experience the natural beauty of our state.)
_____ Transition words in the body of paper
_____ Closing that makes the paper feel finished - restates author’s position and arguments

Ideas
____ Two or three separate, logical, and persuasive arguments
_____ The audience’s argument anticipated and a counter argument offered (if only two arguments are used).
_____ Three solid pieces of elaboration per paragraph
_____ Shows, not tells
_____ Personal stories
_____ Everything in paper adds to the main idea; unimportant details that distract from the main idea left out

Voice
_____ Personality of writer shows
_____ Writer shows interest in the topic

Word Choice
_____ Specific nouns
_____ Active Verbs (limited use of: is, are, was, were, has, been)
_____ No “dead words” (fun, nice, said, things, like, cool, went, got, stuff)
Sentence Fluency

_____ Variety of sentence lengths
_____ Variety of sentence beginnings
_____ Complex and compound sentences punctuated correctly - one comma and a conjunction, and one semi colon used
_____ No fragments
_____ No run-ons

Conventions

_____ No spelling errors, especially no spelling unforgivable (RE- DO)
_____ Correct capitalization
_____ Contractions punctuated correctly
_____ Plural words punctuated correctly
_____ Possessive nouns punctuated correctly