|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Components** | **4-Exceptional** | **3-Accomplished** | **2-Developing** | **1-Beginning** |
| **Organization**( \_\_\_/8) | * Uses standard letter format
* Information is organized in a way that clearly articulates the writer’s message
 | * Mostly uses standard letter format
* Organized in a way that mostly articulates the writer’s message
 | * Somewhat uses standard letter format
* Organized in a way that somewhat articulates the writer’s message
 | * Does not use standard letter format
* Not organized in a way that clearly articulates the writer’s message
 |
| **Content**( \_\_\_/20) | * Addresses a specific government official
* A Pulitzer Center news story is summarized accurately, concisely, and with appropriate citation to support the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer
* A clear, specific connection is made between the global issue and the writer and/or writer’s local community
* A persuasive argument is made for the importance of the issue, both internationally and locally
* A persuasive argument is made for what a government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue)
 | * Addresses a specific government official
* A Pulitzer Center news story is summarized accurately and mostly supports the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer
* A clear connection between the international issue and the writer and/or writer’s local community is made
* A somewhat persuasive argument is made for the importance of the issue, both internationally and locally
* An argument is made for what the government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue)
 | * Addresses a specific government official
* A Pulitzer Center news story is referenced that partially supports the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer.
* Makes a connection between the international issue and the writer and/or writer’s local community
* An argument is made for the importance of the issue internationally and/or locally
* An argument is made for what the government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue)
 | * Addresses a specific government official
* A Pulitzer Center news story is not referenced to support the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer.
* Does not connect the international issue and the writer and/or writer’s local community
* An argument is not clearly made for the importance of the issue internationally and/or locally
* An argument is not clearly made for what the government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue)
 |
| **Language**( \_\_\_/8) | * No spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity
* Thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader
 | * Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity in one or two instances
* Thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader
 | * Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity in several instances
* Some thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader
 | * Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity throughout
* Unclear use of language to persuade the reader
 |

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**/ 36**