**Task:** Write a 4 paragraph essay including an introduction paragraph, two argumentative paragraphs, and a conclusion.

**Prompt:** Among the characters from Act 1 who is the most villainous? Who has been unjustly targeted the most?Defend your position and use at least one historical account that contributes to your argument.

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|  | Mastery  5 Pts | Near Mastery  4 pts | Emerging Proficiency  3 pts | Not Yet  2 pts |
| Intro/Claim | The claim is clear and specific. The background information is clear and helpful. | The claim is clear and specific. The background information is clear, but not helpful. | The claim is unclear and not specific. The background information is unclear. | The background information is missing and there is no claim. |
| Counterargument | Counterclaim and rebuttal effectively show the other side’s strengths and weaknesses. | Counterclaim is relevant and rebuttal is present. | A weak counter claim and weak rebuttal are present. | No counter claim or rebuttal. |
| Evidence | Evidence is well chosen and elaboration shows the importance of it. | Evidence is well chosen and the elaboration talks about the evidence. | Some evidence or elaboration is present, but it is weak. | No evidence or elaboration. |
| Organization | Logical progression of ideas with a clear structure that enhances the thesis. Transitions are smooth and provide coherence among ideas. | Logical progression of ideas. Transitions are present and provide adequate coherence between and among ideas. | Organization is somewhat clear. Transitions are present, but may not be coherent among ideas. | No discernable organization. Transitions are not present. |
| Conclusion | Provides a concluding statement that follows from and supports the argument presented. | Concluding Statement mostly supports the argument presented. | Concluding statement is incomplete or doesn’t mention the argument. | No concluding statement. |
| MLA Format | Demonstrates exceptional command of the conventions of standard written language and is free of errors. Follows MLA format throughout the essay. | Demonstrates strong command of the conventions of standard written language with few errors. Follows MLA format through most of the essay. | Demonstrates marginal command of the conventions of standard written language with frequent errors. MLA format somewhat present. | Demonstrates poor command of the conventions of standard written language. MLA format not followed. |