

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Argumentative Essay for the *Pursuit of Happiness*

#### Introductory Paragraph

- A. Quote: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Explain its meaning as it relates to thesis.
- C. Counterargument: \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Claim/Thesis: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Synopsis or Summary Paragraph

Write a 7-10 sentence summary of the most important events in the story.

#### Evidence Paragraph #1

- A. Write a topic sentence: i.e. The theme of the American Dream is illustrated quite clearly in the Pursuit of Happiness when Chris and his son play basketball.

- B. Detail #1: i.e. "I'm going pro." \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Detail #2: i.e. Chris makes a basket. \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Detail #3: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Evidence Paragraph #2

- A. Write a topic sentence: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Detail#1: i.e. Ribbons's white house \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Detail#2: i.e. Ribbons's box seat \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Detail#3 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Evidence Paragraph #3

Repeat Steps A-D as above. (on back)

#### Concluding Paragraph

- A. Write two or three sentences about the counterargument. (back)
- B. Refute the counterargument with an important image or scene.
- C. Cap your conclusion with a sentence that wins over the reader.