Civil War Pre Assessment

Write a persuasive essay arguing for either the North or the South in regards to the start of the Civil War? Which side was better off? What advantages did each side have?

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| CATEGORY | **3 - Above Standards** | **2 - Meets Standards** | **1 - Approaching Standards** |
| **Attention Grabber** | The introductory paragraph has a strong hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience. This could be a strong statement, a relevant quotation, statistic, or question addressed to the reader. | The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber, but it is weak, rambling or inappropriate for the audience. | The author has an interesting introductory paragraph but the connection to the topic is not clear. |
| **Position Statement** | The position statement provides a clear, strong statement of the author\'s position on the topic. | The position statement provides a clear statement of the author\'s position on the topic. | A position statement is present, but does not make the author\'s position clear. |
| **Support for Position** | Includes 3 or more pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that support the position statement. The writer anticipates the reader\'s concerns, biases or arguments and has provided at least 1 counter-argument. | Includes 3 or more pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that support the position statement. | Includes 2 pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that support the position statement. |
| **Accuracy** | All supportive facts and statistics are reported accurately. | Almost all supportive facts and statistics are reported accurately. | Most supportive facts and statistics are reported accurately. |
| **Sentence Structure** | All sentences are well-constructed with varied structure. | Most sentences are well-constructed and there is some varied sentence structure in the essay. | Most sentences are well constructed, but there is no variation is structure. |
| **Grammar & Spelling** | Author makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Author makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Author makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. |