Do Zoos Help or Harm Animals?
Compare and Contrast Writing Assessment

Directions:
• Read the five texts that are included in your packet.
• Write an essay comparing and contrasting the different points of view of whether or not zoos help or harm animals.
• As you read, ask yourself the guiding question, “Do zoos help or harm animals?”
• Underline the pros and cons of this historical debate. (Compare and contrast each point of view.)
• Create a graphic organizer, and take notes of the pros and cons. (Compare and contrast each point of view.)
• In the introduction to your essay, write a claim stating each point of view of whether or not zoos help or harm animals.
• Be sure to list the titles of the texts that you use in your essay.
• Be sure to list the evidence that compares and contrasts the points of view to support your inference/claim.
• Write as much as you can, as quickly as you can. You may use several sheets of loose-leaf paper.
• Use the rubric and especially the writing checklist to ensure that you include all that is required to make your essay powerful.
• In your writing, make sure you:
  ➢ Write your inference/claim in your introduction.
  ➢ Use transition words to start new paragraphs and to introduce new examples from the text.
  ➢ Give at several examples from the text as your evidence to support your inference/claim.
  ➢ Use statements such as, “I know this because in paragraph ___it states,...”
  ➢ Write a conclusion.
• Check your writing for:
  ➢ spelling
  ➢ capitalization of proper nouns
  ➢ capitalization of the beginning of sentences
  ➢ punctuation
  ➢ indentation of each new paragraph
  ➢ interesting word choice
  ➢ See the rubric for more details of expectations.