What makes evidence strong?

Strong Evidence:

- Presents an argument that makes sense
- Compelling evidence allows audience to believe in the argument
- Based on facts, is the most valid, of any other argument
- Answers all possible questions with qualitative and quantitative evidence

Medium Evidence:

- Presents an argument that makes sense
- Evidence allows most audience members to believe in the argument
- Provided with some facts, is as convincing as other arguments
- Leaves some questions unanswered, due to lack of evidence

Weak Evidence:

- Presents an argument, but it does not completely make sense
- The evidence does not change the audience's thinking
- Without sufficient qualitative and quantitative evidence it is not as strong as other arguments
- Leaves most questions unanswered due to lack of valid evidence

RANK THIS EVIDENCE

Argument 1 – Drought triggering a severe lack of water caused the war.

- There was a severe drought for the four years before the start of the war. This drought was unprecedented.
- Many people lost their possessions and livelihood because there was no water.
- Citizens received no support from the government.
- There was great civil unrest due to lack of water, people were hurt and some were killed.

Argument 2 – The palm industry is responsible for all deforestation.

- The palm industry is the only industry that could be responsible for deforestation.
- I have heard more about the palm industry related to deforestation than any other industry.
- Palm oil is in everything I buy.
- I think there are palm plantations on every continent.

Argument 3 – Climate Change impacts wildlife.

- The increased instances of forest fires is causing habitat loss for many animals.
- I watched a TV show about how climate change is affecting wildlife.
- According to NASA, our global temperatures are rising causing our climate to change.
- In the past 10 years I have recorded fewer and fewer migratory birds during the annual Backyard Bird Count.

