

NAME _____

Argument Writing Rubric

CRITERIA	ATTEMPTING 1	PROGRESSING 2	ACCOMPLISHING 3	EXCEEDING 4
FOCUS	Writing is not sufficiently focused on the essential question.	Writing is somewhat focused on the essential question.	Writing is focused on the essential question.	Writing is consistently and strongly focused on the essential question.
CONTROLLING IDEA	Writing identifies no main idea.	Writing identifies a weak main idea.	Writing identifies a credible main idea.	Writing shows an original and credible main idea.
TEXTUAL EVIDENCE	Writing does not refer to the text or refers to it in ways that are not accurate or relevant.	Writing refers to the text in ways that are partially accurate or relevant.	Writing refers to the text in ways that are accurate and relevant.	Writing refers to the text in ways that are well chosen, accurate and relevant.
DEVELOPMENT	Writing contains no arguments to support the main idea.	Writing supports the main idea with weak or unclear arguments.	Writing supports the main idea with persuasive and reasonable arguments.	Writing supports the main idea with persuasive, reasonable and original arguments.
ORGANIZATION	Writing is not organized in a way that meets the task demands.	Writing is organized but only partially meets the task demands.	Writing is organized to meet the task demands.	Writing is purposefully and thoughtfully organized to meet the task demands.
WORD CHOICE	Writing uses only limited vocabulary and incorporates no language from the text.	Writing uses moderately varied vocabulary and attempts to incorporate language from the text.	Writing accurately and clearly incorporates varied vocabulary including language from the text.	Writing accurately, clearly and creatively incorporates varied vocabulary including language from the text.
CONVENTIONS	Writing has frequent errors in usage and mechanics.	Writing has some errors in usage and mechanics.	Writing has few errors in usage or mechanics.	Writing has no errors in usage or mechanics.

ARGUMENT WRITER'S CHECKLIST

CRITERIA	STUDENT CHECKLIST
FOCUS	Did I stay with the topic and answer the essential question?
CONTROLLING IDEA	Did I clearly state a main idea?
TEXTUAL EVIDENCE	Did I support my main idea with evidence from the text?
DEVELOPMENT	Did I support my main idea with convincing and relevant arguments?
ORGANIZATION	Did I organize and structure my writing in a way that communicates my point?
WORD CHOICE	Did I use a variety of vocabulary, including language I learned from the text?
CONVENTIONS	Did I edit my writing for spelling, grammar, punctuation and capitalization?