

Common Core/Six Trait-aligned Argumentative Writing Rubric

8th GRADE

	1- Below (5 th)	2- Approaching (7 th)	3- Proficient (8 th)	4- Exceeds (9-10 th)
Ideas	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduces topic clearly and states an opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Support reasons(s) with facts and details <input type="checkbox"/> Does not use sources or cites sources lacking credibility <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates partial or incomplete understanding of the topic or text	<input type="checkbox"/> States claim or position clearly <input type="checkbox"/> Supports claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Uses accurate, credible sources <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates an understanding of the topic or text <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledges alternate or opposing claims	<input type="checkbox"/> States claim or position clearly <input type="checkbox"/> Supports claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Uses accurate, credible sources <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates an understanding of the topic or text <input type="checkbox"/> Distinguishes the claim from alternate or opposing claims	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presents precise claim or position clearly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develops claims and counterclaims fairly, supplying evidence for each <input type="checkbox"/> Points out strengths and limitations of both sides <input type="checkbox"/> Expresses understanding of the topic or text through a disciplinary lens <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distinguishes the claim from alternate or opposing claims
Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduces topic <input type="checkbox"/> Groups related ideas logically to support purpose <input type="checkbox"/> Links opinions and reasons using (transitional) words, phrases, and clauses (e.g. consequently, specifically) <input type="checkbox"/> Provides a concluding statement or section related to the opinion	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduces topic clearly <input type="checkbox"/> Presents reasons and evidence logically <input type="checkbox"/> Uses words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships and create cohesion among claims, reasons, and evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Provides a concluding statement or section that follows and supports the argument presented	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduces topic engagingly <input type="checkbox"/> Presents reasons and evidence logically <input type="checkbox"/> Uses words phrases, and clauses to clarify relationships and create cohesion among claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduces topic engagingly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presents reasons and evidence logically <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Links major sections of the text with words, phrases, and clauses to clarify relationships and create cohesion among claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented
Conventions	<input type="checkbox"/> Capitalizes correctly. <input type="checkbox"/> Spells basic words correctly. <input type="checkbox"/> Features complete sentences. <input type="checkbox"/> Communicates message with some interference due conventions	<input type="checkbox"/> Reinforces message with conventions (e.g. uses complex or compound sentences) <input type="checkbox"/> Follows grammatical conventions of standard English <input type="checkbox"/> Spells correctly <input type="checkbox"/> Maintains formal style	<input type="checkbox"/> Enhances message with conventions (e.g. uses pauses or breaks appropriately) <input type="checkbox"/> Follows grammatical conventions of standard English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spells correctly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintains formal style	<input type="checkbox"/> Enhances message with conventions <input type="checkbox"/> Follows grammatical conventions of standard English <input type="checkbox"/> Spells correctly <input type="checkbox"/> Maintains formal style and an objective tone

Learning Progression for **W8.1: Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.**

Continues from **W5.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.**

Continues with **W9-10.1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topic or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.**