

ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY RUBRIC

GRADE 6

Criteria	Level 4: Exceeding Standards	Level 3: Meeting Standards	Level 2: Approaching Standards	Level 1: Below Standards
Focus & Structure	Essay maintains a clear and relevant organization throughout . Each new paragraph relates to and builds on the previous section logically.	Essay maintains a clear organization throughout . Each paragraph is essential to the purpose of the essay.	Essay contains a somewhat clear organization. Most paragraphs are essential to the purpose of the essay.	Essay does not contain a clear organization. Few paragraphs are essential to the purpose of the essay.
Introduction	Introductory section provides a strong opening , adequate context and a clear thesis statement.	Introductory section offers context and a clear thesis statement.	Introductory section contains some context and an unclear thesis statement	Introductory section contains neither context nor a clear thesis statement
Evidence	Student supports their thesis statement with multiple clear and relevant examples from credible sources using quotes . Evidence acknowledges alternate or opposing points of view.	Student supports their thesis statement with multiple clear and relevant examples from credible sources.	Student supports their thesis statement with some clear and relevant examples from credible sources.	Student supports their thesis statement with few clear and relevant examples from credible sources.
Conclusion	Essay provides a concluding statement that summarizes the major points of the argument and explains their significance fully	Essay provides a concluding statement that accurately summarizes the major points of the argument	Essay provides a concluding statement that is vague or unclear in its summary of the major points of the argument	Essay provides a concluding statement that is unrelated to the argument OR essay does not include a conclusion.
Style (Language Choice & Conventions)	Uses strong words, transitional phrases and complex sentences throughout . Grammatical conventions are followed successfully (95% accuracy)	Frequently uses strong words, transitional phrases and complex sentences. Grammatical conventions are usually followed with success (85% accuracy)	Sometimes uses strong words, transitional phrases and complex sentences. Grammatical conventions are sometimes followed with success (75% accuracy)	Rarely uses strong words, transitional phrases and complex sentences. Grammatical conventions are rarely followed with success (65% accuracy)