

Argumentative Writing Rubric (senior year)

	4 - Advanced)	3 - Proficient	2 - Getting There)	1 - Keep Practicing
<i>Thesis</i>	Precise thesis that establishes a complex line of reasoning located at the end of intro	Precise thesis that establishes a line of reasoning located at the end of intro	Clear thesis that establishes a line of reasoning located at the end of intro	Thesis is unclear, does not establish a line of reasoning, or is not located at the end of the intro
<i>Claims</i>	Three or more clear and specific topic sentences that assert a provable statement that are critically important to the thesis	Multiple, clear, and specific topic sentences that assert a provable statement relevant to the thesis	Multiple clear topic sentences that assert a provable statement relevant to the thesis.	Some topic sentences are unclear, irrelevant, absent, or do not assert a provable statement.
<i>Evidence</i>	Claims are supported by at least two detailed and specific facts or quotes and at least two paraphrases Clear references to at least five sources of evidence, at least two of which must come from independent research. All sources are cited, properly formatted in the requested style, and bibliographed	Claims are supported by at least two detailed and specific facts or quotes and at least one paraphrase Clear reference to at least three sources of evidence All sources are cited and properly formatted in the requested style	Claims are supported by at least two detailed and specific facts or quotes Clear reference to at least two sources of evidence All sources are cited, but may not be properly formatted in the requested style	Support for at least one claim is vague, unspecific, and/or irrelevant At least one reference is missing At least one citation is missing
<i>Analysis</i>	Analyses are in-depth and logically establish why the evidence supports the claim. Analyses make connections among several pieces of evidence to synthesize ideas Paragraph organization fortifies the line of reasoning. Analyses convey mastery of the context around the topic A convincing evaluation of the source credibility is given.	Analyses substantially and logically establish why the evidence supports the claim. Analyses make connections between two pieces of evidence to synthesize ideas Analyses convey an advanced knowledge of the context around the topic Source credibility is considered, but may be incomplete or unconvincing.	Analyses consistently and logically establish why the evidence supports the claim. Analysis conveys a basic knowledge of the context around the topic Source credibility is mentioned	Some analyses do not clearly establish why the evidence supports the claim and/or the reasoning is insufficient.
<i>Links</i>	Connections from claims to thesis are clear and strategically emphasize the importance of specific analyses to their claim and the thesis. Transitions from analyses to links and into the next paragraph are clear, concise, and flow seamlessly.	Connections from claims to thesis are clear and emphasize why the analyses are important to their claim and the thesis. Transitions from analyses to links and into the next paragraph are clear and concise.	Connections from claims to thesis are clear and show why the analyses are important to their claim and the thesis. Transitions from analysis to links and into the next paragraph are clear.	Some connections from claim to thesis are unclear and/or do not show the importance of the analysis to the claim and/or thesis. Some transitions from analysis to link and into the next paragraph are unclear.
<i>Counter Claim</i>	Counterclaim is introduced and addressed with a clear, logical, and strategic rebuttal, refutation, or concession	Counterclaim is introduced and addressed with a clear and logical rebuttal, refutation, or concession	Counterclaim is introduced and addressed, but the rebuttal, refutation, or concession is weak or unclear	Counterclaim is introduced but not addressed or illogically addressed
<i>Conclusion</i>	Conclusion clearly reiterates thesis, reasoning, and develops complex and insightful implications beyond the context of the argument	Conclusion clearly reiterates thesis, reasoning, and develops complex implications beyond the context of the argument	Conclusion clearly reiterates thesis, reasoning, and develops basic implications beyond the context of the argument	Conclusion does not clearly reiterate thesis, reasoning, and/or develop implications beyond the context of the argument