Argumentative Writing Rubric

Category	Mastery 4	Near Standard 3	Emergent 2	Incomplete/Below St 1
Focus/Organization	the thesis is precise and every part of the paper supports the thesis the claims/reasons are logically organized and presented in a way to support the claim clearly addresses the counterclaim and refutes the counterclaim with effective evidence	the thesis is clear and mostly maintained through the paper the claims/reasons are mostly logical, even though the organization is weak at times states the counterclaim and refutes the counterclaim with evidence, however, it is weak or doesn't fully support the claim	the thesis is presented but it is not clear or focused the claims/reasons are not presented in a logical manner and the organization is confusing at times the counterclaim is confusing and/or the rebuttal is confusing	the thesis is not present or too confusing to recognize the claims/reasons are not organized or the ideas are off topic the counterclaim is missing and/or the rebuttal is missing
Evidence/Elaboration	evidence from sources is integrated, relevant, and directly support the claim throughout the paper the analysis of the evidence provided is used to strengthen the claim	evidence is integrated, relevant, some may be too general the analysis of the evidence is present but isn't used to strengthen the claim (lacking specific connection to claim)	some evidence from sources may be weakly integrated, repetitive, or missing; references may be vague there is an attempt to analyze the evidence but it is too general, lacks meaning or support to the claim	very little evidence is provided; evidence is confusing or off topic analysis of the evidence is missing; analysis is replaced with a summary of evidence
Style	language is formal and at grade level tone is kept objective throughout the paper use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling	language is mostly formal except for a few informal remarks, at grade level tone is mostly kept objective limited use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling	language moves between formal and informal; below grade level tone is somewhat objective, includes bias remarks the incorrect punctuation, capitalization, and spelling makes the paper hard to understand	language is informal and conversational, below grade level tone is biased (to the point of emotionally persuasive) capitalization, grammar, and spelling mistakes are throughout the paper making the paper unintelligible

Score Scale:	
Rubric Score	Percentage
12	100
11	94-99
10	88-93
9	82-87
8	76-81
7	70-75
6	64-69
5	58-63
4	52-57

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