

Grade 8: Argumentative Writing Rubric

W.8.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
L.8.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Exceeds Grade Level (4)	Proficient (3)	Partially Proficient (2)	Novice (1)
<p>W.08.01a (development & organization) Advanced skills noted:</p>	<p>Introduction paragraph is organized logically and contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> an attention getter <input type="checkbox"/> background information <input type="checkbox"/> acknowledgement of opposing claims <input type="checkbox"/> claim/thesis. 	<p>Introduction paragraph lacks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> logical organization <input type="checkbox"/> an attention getter <input type="checkbox"/> background information <input type="checkbox"/> a clear claim/thesis 	<p>Introduction paragraph lacks full development.</p>
<p>W.08.01b (development) Advanced skills noted:</p>	<p>Each body paragraph states</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a reason/argument within a topic sentence <input type="checkbox"/> solid support <input type="checkbox"/> credible details that support it 	<p>Body paragraphs may lack</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a clear topic sentence <input type="checkbox"/> sufficient support <input type="checkbox"/> credible details. 	<p>Body paragraphs lack full development.</p>
<p>W.08.01c (organization & style) Advanced skills noted:</p>	<p>Transition words/phrases and sentence variety are used to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> connect ideas <input type="checkbox"/> create clear writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Transitions are unclear or inconsistent <input type="checkbox"/> writing lacks sentence variety and becomes choppy at times 	<p>Transitions are missing and sentence are simple.</p>
<p>W.08.01d (formal style) Advanced skills noted:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use third person pronouns <input type="checkbox"/> states main points objectively (limited emotions) <input type="checkbox"/> avoid contractions and informal word choice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to use third person pronouns but may not be consistent <input type="checkbox"/> states main points objectively (limited emotions) <input type="checkbox"/> contractions and informal word choice occasionally find their way into paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Informal style noted throughout paper. <input type="checkbox"/> Emotions and opinions get in the way of objectivity.
<p>W.08.01e (development & organization) Advanced skills noted:</p>	<p>Conclusion contains</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a transition word or phrase <input type="checkbox"/> restates claim and summarizes main points <input type="checkbox"/> ends with a strong closing statement that supports argument; may offer a call to action, benefit or warning. 	<p>Conclusion may contain most of level 3 expectations, but may lack</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a transition word or phrase <input type="checkbox"/> restatement of claim <input type="checkbox"/> summary of main points <input type="checkbox"/> closing statement that reminds reader of importance of argument. 	<p>Conclusion paragraph lacks full development.</p>
<p>Language shows no errors in conventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> capitalization <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation <input type="checkbox"/> spelling 	<p>Language has a few errors in convention but does not distract reader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> capitalization <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation <input type="checkbox"/> spelling 	<p>Language has many errors in conventions – detracts from meaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> capitalization <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation <input type="checkbox"/> spelling 	<p>Language has major errors in conventions which make paper difficult to read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> capitalization <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation <input type="checkbox"/> spelling

WRITING SCORE _____

LANGUAGE SCORE _____