**Argumentative Writing Rubric**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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|  | **Distinguished 4** |  **Proficient 3** | **Developing 2** | **Beginning 1** |
| **Claim** | Effectively introduces claim(s) | Clearly introduces claim | Attempts to introduce a claim | May not introduce claim/claim must be inferred |
| **Organization** | Uses an organizational strategy to present reasons and relevant evidence logically | Uses an organizational strategy to present some reasons and evidence | Attempts to use an organizational structure which may be formulaic | May be too brief to demonstrate an organizational structure, or no structure is evident |
| **Support** | Supports claim with clear reasons and relevant evidence using specific, well-chosen facts, details, or other information from credible sources and demonstrates a good understanding of the topic or texts | Uses specific facts, details, definitions, examples, and/or other information from sources to develop claim.  | Develops, sometimes unevenly, reasons and/or evidence to support claim | Has minimal support for claim |
| **Opposing Viewpoint** | Acknowledges and counters opposing claim, as appropriate | Attempts to acknowledge and/or counter opposing claim, as appropriate | Makes little, if any attempt to acknowledge or counter opposing claim | Makes no attempt to acknowledge or counter opposing claim |
| **Word Choice** | Uses words, phrases, and or/clauses that effectively connect and show direct, strong relationships among claims, reasons and evidence | Uses words and/or phrases to connect ideas and shows relationships among claim, reasons, and evidence | Uses a few words or phrases to connect ideas; connections are not always clear | Uses minimal or no words or phrases to connect ideas |
| **Style** | Establishes and maintains a formal style that is appropriate for the task, purpose, and audience | Uses a formal style fairly consistently for task, purpose, and audience | Uses a formal style inconsistently or an informal style that does not fit task, purpose, or audience | Uses a very informal style that is not appropriate for task, purpose, or audience |
| **Conclusion** | Provides a strong concluding statement or section that logically follows from the argument presented | Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented | Provides a weak concluding statement or section that may not follow the argument presented | Provides a minimal or no concluding statement or section |