

KAS Argumentation Rubric--8th Grade On-Demand Writing

Guiding Principle C1: Students will compose arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

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WORD CHOICE

SENT. FLUENCY

CONVENTIONS

Scoring Elements	Novice	Apprentice	Proficient	Distinguished
Clarity and Coherence	Makes claim(s) that may lack focus or be unclear . Misses many or all demands of the prompt.	Makes general claim(s) that address the prompt, but may have lapses in focus. Attempts to address some demands of the prompt.	Introduces and maintains clear and coherent claim(s). Addresses all demands of the prompt.	Introduces and maintains clear, credible and coherent claim(s). Thoroughly addresses all demands of the prompt.
Counterclaims	Makes an ineffective attempt or makes no attempt to acknowledge opposing claim(s). Makes an ineffective attempt or makes no attempt to counter and/or refute opposing claim(s).	Attempts to acknowledge opposing claim(s), but lacks insight, interpretation or clarification. Attempts to counter and/or refute opposing claim(s).	Acknowledges and distinguishes opposing claim(s) with insight, interpretation or clarification. Counters and refutes opposing claim(s).	Skillfully acknowledges and distinguishes opposing claim(s) with insight, interpretation or clarification. Thoroughly counters and refutes opposing claim(s) with carefully selected evidence .
Support	Includes minimal or no purposeful support of claim(s) with evidence. Provides incomplete, inaccurate and/or irrelevant explanations of evidence and ideas. Provides minimal or unrelated reasoning to support claim(s).	Attempts to support claim(s) with evidence. Provides vague and/or general explanations of evidence and ideas. Provides vague and/or general reasoning to support claim(s).	Supports claim(s) with logical reasons and relevant evidence . Provides logical explanations of evidence and ideas. Provides reasoning that clearly links evidence to support claim(s).	Thoroughly supports claim(s) with logical reasons and carefully selected , relevant evidence that strengthens the argument . Provides thorough and effective explanations of evidence and ideas. Provides varied reasoning which thoughtfully links evidence to support claim(s).
Sourcing	Uses one or none of the provided sources or ineffectively uses a minimum of two provided sources to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claim(s). Cites little or no evidence. Little or no use of quotes and/or paraphrasing of details, examples and ideas.	Uses a minimum of two provided sources to attempt to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claim(s). Inconsistently cites evidence. Attempts to quote and/or paraphrase details, examples and ideas.	Accurately and effectively uses a minimum of two provided sources to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claim(s). Effectively cites evidence by quoting and/or paraphrasing details, examples and ideas.	Accurately and skillfully uses a minimum of two provided sources to support the claim(s) and/or opposing claim(s). Consistently and thoroughly cites evidence by quoting and/or paraphrasing details, examples and ideas.
Organization	Builds minimal or no overall structure for the argument. Ineffectively organizes claim(s), counterclaims, evidence and reasoning, creating a lack of cohesion. Makes a minimal attempt or makes no attempt to use transitions to link claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence. Provides a weak conclusion or lacks a conclusion to support the argument.	Attempts to build a structure for the argument. Attempts to organize claim(s), counterclaims, evidence and reasoning, but contains some lapses that disrupt the cohesion or are inappropriate for the context . Attempts to use transitions to link claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence, but they are simple and infrequent . Provides a basic conclusion or concluding statement in an attempt to support the argument.	Builds and maintains a clear structure to develop the argument. Logically organizes claim(s), counterclaims, evidence and reasoning. Uses effective transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence. Provides a logical conclusion to support the argument presented.	Builds and maintains a sophisticated structure to develop the argument. Skillfully organizes claim(s), counterclaims, evidence and reasoning to strengthen the argument . Consistently uses a variety of transitions as well as varied sentence structures to create a strong cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence. Provides a thorough conclusion to support the argument presented.

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Scoring Elements	Novice	Apprentice	Proficient	Distinguished
Language/Conventions	<p>Lacks or uses an inappropriate formal tone or voice.</p> <p>Lacks a task appropriate writing style.</p> <p>Uses simple or inappropriate word choice.</p>	<p>Uses a weak formal tone or voice and/or has lapses in appropriate formal tone or voice.</p> <p>Attempts to establish a task appropriate writing style.</p> <p>Attempts to use appropriate word choice</p>	<p>Establishes and maintains a formal tone or voice.</p> <p>Establishes and maintains a task appropriate writing style.</p> <p>Effectively uses appropriate word choice.</p>	<p>Consistently establishes and maintains a sophisticated formal tone or voice.</p> <p>Consistently establishes and maintains a sophisticated, task appropriate writing style.</p> <p>Consistently uses effective and varied word choice.</p>
	<p>Makes significant errors in the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation which interfere with understanding the writing.</p>	<p>Makes frequent errors in using the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation which may interfere with understanding the writing.</p>	<p>Effectively uses the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation with minor errors that do not interfere with understanding the writing.</p>	<p>Skillfully uses the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation with few, minor errors that do not interfere with understanding the writing.</p>

KDE:OTL:DPS:KP:TC