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COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING RUBRIC

(Grades 6–12)

	1	2	3	4
Development of Ideas	The essay demonstrates little to no ability to present an argument and to develop meaningful support for the claim.	The essay demonstrates an inadequate or inconsistent ability to present an argument and to develop meaningful support for the claim.	The essay demonstrates an adequate ability to present a convincing argument and to develop meaningful support for the claim.	The essay demonstrates a strong ability to present a convincing argument and to develop meaningful support for the claim.
Organization	The essay demonstrates little to no ability to organize an argumentative essay.	The essay demonstrates an inadequate or inconsistent ability to organize an argumentative essay.	The essay demonstrates an adequate ability to organize an argumentative essay.	The essay demonstrates a strong ability to effectively organize an argumentative essay.
Task and Focus	The essay demonstrates little to no ability to address all elements of the task and to maintain focus on the presentation of the argument.	The essay demonstrates an inadequate or inconsistent ability to address all elements of the task and to maintain focus on the presentation of the argument.	The essay demonstrates an adequate ability to address all elements of the task and to maintain focus on the presentation of the argument.	The essay demonstrates a strong ability to address all elements of the task and to maintain focus on the presentation of the argument.
Language and Style	The essay demonstrates little to no ability to use language, style and tone that are appropriate for the argumentative task.	The essay demonstrates an inadequate or inconsistent ability to use language, style and tone that are appropriate for the argumentative task.	The essay demonstrates an adequate ability to use language, style and tone that are appropriate for the argumentative task.	The essay demonstrates a strong ability to use language, style and tone that are appropriate for the argumentative task.
Conventions	The essay demonstrates little to no command of the conventions of standard written English.	The essay demonstrates an inadequate or inconsistent command of the conventions of standard written English.	The essay demonstrates an adequate command of the conventions of standard written English.	The essay demonstrates a strong command of the conventions of standard written English.

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