

MCAP English Language Arts and Literacy

Argumentative Rubric, Grades 6-8 and 10

Written Expression

Points	The Response
4 Points	 Demonstrates a full and complete understanding of ideas in the texts by providing an accurate analysis supported with effective and convincing textual evidence. States and supports claim(s) in an effective analysis of texts using effective reasoning and relevant evidence. Develops clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. Includes ideas that are presented clearly and logically from beginning to end; there are strong connections between and among ideas. Includes alternate or opposing claims that are clearly acknowledged and soundly addressed. (Not applicable in grade 6.)
3 Points	 Demonstrates an adequate understanding of ideas in the texts by providing a mostly accurate analysis supported with adequate textual evidence. States and supports claim(s) in a mostly effective analysis of texts using mostly effective reasoning and evidence. Develops mostly clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are mostly appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. Includes ideas that are mostly clear and logical from beginning to end; there are connections between and among ideas. Includes alternate or opposing claims that are mostly acknowledged and addressed. (Not applicable in grade 6.)
2 Points	 Demonstrates basic understanding of ideas in the texts by providing a somewhat accurate analysis supported with basic textual evidence. States and supports claim(s) through a somewhat accurate analysis of texts using some reasoning and evidence. Develops generally clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are somewhat appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. Includes ideas that are somewhat clear and logical but may be uneven; there are general connections between and among ideas. Includes alternate or opposing claims that are somewhat acknowledged and addressed. (Not applicable in grade 6.)
1 Point	 Demonstrates limited understanding of ideas stated in the texts by providing a minimally accurate analysis supported with limited textual evidence. States and supports claim(s) through a limited analysis of texts using limited reasoning and evidence. Develops minimally coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are limited to task, purpose, and audience. Includes ideas that are limited; there are minimally effective connections between and among ideas. Includes alternate or opposing claims that are limited in their appropriateness and development. (Not applicable in grade 6.)



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0 Points

- Demonstrates no understanding of ideas in the texts. The response provides inaccurate or no analysis and no textual evidence.
- Does not state or support claim(s) and demonstrates no or inaccurate analysis of texts.
- Lacks coherent writing, organization, and style for the task, purpose, and audience.
- Includes ideas that are inappropriate, missing, or inaccurate; there are few or no connections between and among ideas.
- Does not include or consider alternate or opposing claims. (Not applicable in grade 6.)



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Written Conventions

Points	Description
3 Points	 The response demonstrates a full command of conventions of standard English at the appropriate level of complexity. Sentence structures are varied, well-formed, and effectively controlled. Grammar and usage are strong and effective, enhancing the content of the response. Spelling, punctuation, and capitalization are mostly correct.
2 Points	 The response demonstrates a partial command of conventions of standard English at the appropriate level of complexity. Sentences structures show some variety and are generally controlled. Grammar and usage may be uneven and may occasionally impede understanding. Spelling, punctuation, and capitalization are generally correct.
1 Point	 The response demonstrates little command of conventions of standard English at the appropriate level of complexity. Sentence structure and control are limited. Errors in grammar and usage may be frequent and may impede understanding. Spelling, punctuation, and capitalization may be incorrect and/or unclear.
0 Points	 The response does not demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English at the appropriate level of complexity. Frequent and varied errors in mechanics, grammar, and usage impede understanding.