ARGUMENT WRITING RUBRIC GRADES 7 and 8 North Smithfield School Department

COMMON CORE	4	3	2	1
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF WRITING	Skillfully strengthens writing as needed by: planning revising editing rewriting or trying a new approach, after rethinking how well questions of purpose and context have been addressed.	Strengthens writing as needed by: planning revising editing rewriting or trying a new approach, after rethinking how well questions of purpose and context have been addressed.	Attempts to or partially strengthens writing as needed by: planning revising editing rewriting or trying a new approach, after rethinking how well questions of purpose and context have been addressed.	Writing is not strengthened as needed by:
TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES Organization Ideas	Compellingly introduces claim(s), acknowledges and distinguishes the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organizes the reasons and evidence logically. Strongly organizes and presents ideas through use of: introduction thesis statement body paragraphs conclusion	Introduces claim(s), acknowledges and distinguishes the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organizes the reasons and evidence logically. W.7.1a, W.8.1a Organizes and presents ideas through use of: introduction thesis statement body paragraphs conclusion	Attempts to introduce claim(s), acknowledges and distinguishes the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and/or organize the reasons and evidence logically. Shows an effort to organize and present ideas through use of: introduction thesis statement body paragraphs conclusion	Does not introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, or organize the reasons and evidence logically. Shows little or no effort to organize and present ideas through use of: o introduction o thesis statement o body paragraphs o conclusion
TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES Ideas	Skillfully supports claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.	Supports claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text. W.7.1b, W.8.1b	Struggles to support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using some accurate, credible sources and demonstrating a partial understanding of the topic or text.	Does not support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, and/or uses inaccurate, non-credible sources and/or demonstrates a lack of understanding of the topic or text.
TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES Word Choice Sentence Fluency	Carefully uses words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.	Uses words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence. W.7.1c, W.8.1c	Attempts to use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.	Does not use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES Voice and Word Choice	Establishes and maintains a formal and confident style (select words that maintain strong and appropriate tone).	Establishes and maintain a formal style (select words that maintain strong and appropriate tone). W.7.1d, W.8.1d	Attempts to establish and/or maintain a formal style (select words that maintain strong and appropriate tone).	Does not establish and maintain a formal style (select words that maintains strong and appropriate tone).

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COMMON CORE	4 Proficient with distinction	3 Proficient	2 Partially proficient	1 Below proficiency
TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES Organization Ideas	Provides a powerful concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.	Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented. W.7.1e, W.8.1e	Provides a weak or inappropriate concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.	Does not provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
RESEARCH TO BUILD AND PRESENT KNOWLEDGE	Gathers strong, relevant information from multiple print and/or digital sources, and quotes or paraphrases the data and conclusions of others, while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.	Gathers relevant information from multiple print and/or digital sources, and quotes or paraphrases the data and conclusions of others, while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation. W.7.8, W.8.8	Gathers insufficient or irrelevant information from multiple print and/or digital sources, and may or may not quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others, while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.	Does not gather sufficient or relevant information from print and/or digital sources, and does not quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others, while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
LANGUAGE Conventions	Demonstrates advanced understanding of the conventions of standard written English (e.g., spelling, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and paragraphing); errors do not impair the readability.	Demonstrates a grade-appropriate understanding of the conventions of standard written English (e.g., spelling, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and paragraphing); errors do not impair the readability. L.7.1	Demonstrates partial grade-appropriate understanding of the conventions of standard written English (e.g., spelling, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and paragraphing); errors distract from the readability.	Does not demonstrate grade- appropriate understanding of the conventions of standard written English (e.g., spelling, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and paragraphing); errors greatly distract the readability.
OTHER e.g. Presentation				