**Argumentative Essay – English I & II (Honors)**

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| **W.11-12.1** - Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. | | | | |
| **Standard** | **Exceptional (10-9)** | **Proficient (8-7)** | **Emerging (6-1)** | **Not evident (0)** |
| **1.a**. **Introduction** - Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the  claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence. | \_\_\_\_Introduce a clear thesis that is **sophisticated and original**  \_\_\_\_Establish a **complete and coherent** context of the thesis that shows full understanding of the appropriate audience  \_\_\_\_Establish **a highly effective and sophisticated** organization that establishes clear **and logical** relationships between claims and counterclaims | \_\_\_\_Introduce a thesis that is **clear, focused, and concise**  \_\_\_\_Establish a context to the thesis appropriate to the audience  \_\_\_\_Establish an organization that establishes **clear relationships between** claims, and counterclaims |  |  |
| **1.b**.**Argument** - Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience’s knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases. | \_\_\_\_The thesis is supported by a **sophisticated and consistent** understanding of claims and counterclaims  \_\_\_\_Claims and counterclaims are presented fairly and **entirely**  \_\_\_\_Use **highly effective** evidence (Proof) to support each claim  \_\_\_\_Evidence is supported with **clear and complete** explanations that show a **nuanced** understanding of context and audience.  \_\_\_\_Use formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia that is **appropriately** aligned with the argument (when applicable) | \_\_\_\_The thesis is supported by claims and counterclaims  \_\_\_\_Claims and counterclaims are presented fairly  \_\_\_\_Use evidence (Proof) to support each claim  \_\_\_\_Evidence is supported with explanations that show understanding of context and audience  \_\_\_\_Use formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia that is aligned with the argument (when applicable) |  |  |
| **1.c**. **Organization** - Use words, phrases, and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major  sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between  claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims. | \_\_\_\_Use **effective and sophisticated** transitions **as well as varied syntax consistently** betweenparagraphs to link major sections of text  \_\_\_\_Use **effective and sophisticated** transitions **consistently** withinparagraphs to create cohesion and clarifyrelationships  \_\_\_\_Synthesizes information only where appropriate | \_\_\_\_Use appropriate transitions between paragraphs to link major sections of text  \_\_\_\_Use appropriate transitions within paragraphs to create cohesion and clarify relationships  \_\_\_\_Synthesizes information |  |  |
| **1.d.** **Language** - Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing. | \_\_\_\_Use **effective and sophisticated** word  choice and syntax **consistently** to establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone | \_\_\_\_Use appropriate word choice and syntax to establish a formal style and objective tone that is maintained throughout |  |  |
| **1.e**. **Conclusion** - Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented. | \_\_\_\_Summarize the main points **using original language and clear organization**  \_\_\_\_Articulate a **sophisticated extension** that addresses the implications or significance in a way that **relates to the audience** | \_\_\_\_Summarize the main points  \_\_\_\_Address implications or significance |  |  |