

8 th Grade Writing Rubric Assessment for Task 6	Level 1- Novice	Level 2- Intermediate	Level 3- Proficient	Level 4- Above Proficient
Makes a Claim <i>W. Standard 1.a:</i> Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximates the statement of a claim(s), where the claim(s) may be incorrect, incoherent, or missing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The claim(s) may be jumbled, meandering, or may not stake a position on the topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States a crystallized claim(s) that takes a position on the topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly states a nuanced claim(s) that takes a position on the topic.
Addresses an Alternate View <i>W. Standard 1.a:</i> Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May state a claim but does not seem to acknowledge other possible views. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seems to recognize that there is an alternate view, but grants it almost no attention or respect. May mention the alternate view but then immediately reject it without explaining why. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledges that there's an alternate view and may provide some backing for that view, but doesn't look at it analytically. Raises it only to discount it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows some attempt to give respectful attention to, or wrestle with, an opposing view. May acknowledge the other view's validity, while still arguing that the writer's own view is stronger.
Structure—Organizes Information <i>W. Standard 1.a:</i> Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizes the essay roughly into reasons/evidence, few of which are supported by facts and details, and are presented in an order that may not be logical or cohesive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizes the essay into reasons/evidence, some of which are supported by facts and details. Reasons are presented in an order that supports the claim. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizes the essay into reasons/evidence, each of which is supported by facts and details. Reasons are presented in a logical order that supports the claim. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizes the essay into reasons/evidence, each of which is supported by significant facts and details. Reasons are presented in a logical order that supports the claim.
Craft—Tone/Style <i>W. Standard 1.d:</i> Establish and maintain a formal style.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates an informal tone and style inappropriate to the genre of essays and formal letters, and may cross over into the style of other genres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempts to establish and maintain an essayist's tone and style appropriate to the genre of essays and formal letters, and may be inconsistent in informal and formal style. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes and maintains an essayist's tone and style appropriate to the genre of essays and formal letters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes and maintains an essayist's tone and style appropriate to the genre of essays and formal letters, while adhering to a tone that is calibrated to the intended audience.
Craft—Transitions <i>W. Standard 1.c:</i> Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lacks transitional phrases or includes only lowest-level transitional phrases, such as for example or also. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes some transitional phrases, such as moreover and nevertheless. May use these mostly to connect between sections or paragraphs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently and effectively uses transitional phrases, such as moreover and nevertheless, to clarify claims, counterclaims and their supporting reasons/evidence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses transitional phrases, such as moreover and nevertheless, to clarify claims, counterclaims and their supporting reasons/evidence and uses transitional phrases (going back to, returning to, further support for) to link non adjacent parts of the essay.