**Science Argumentative Writing Scoring Rubric**

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reason and relevant and sufficient evidence.

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|  | Poor | Developing | Meeting |
| Introduction | Introduction is not a complete thought or is missing.  | Introduction does not outline the claim, counterclaim, reasons and evidence.  | Introduction is engaging and outlines the ideas of the writing. |
| Claim (Takes a Position) | Claim is not present or it does not address relevance/significance of the topic. A convincing argument is not made. | A general claim is present. Acknowledges the relevance but does not explain the importance of the topic. | A precise developed claim is present. Explains the relevancy and importance of the topic. |
| Counterclaim(Addresses alternatives) | Counterclaim is not present or irrelevant. | There is not a clear distinction between the claim and counterclaim. Some minor errors are present in the counterclaim.  | Explains the strengths and limitations of a distinguished relevant counterclaim.  |
| Evidence(Develops ideas with examples) | Specific reasoning for the claim is not stated. Evidence is wrong, repetitive or irrelevant. | Some reasons are more supported than others. Evidence has minor mistakes and is not explained in detail. | Claim is well-supported. Evidence is relevant, accurate and thoroughly explained. |
| Science Content/ Background | The topic is not developed and contains major mistakes. | The topic is explained, but minor mistakes are made. | Accurate scientific information is included throughout the writing. |
| Vocabulary | Science vocabulary is not used correctly. | Science vocabulary is used with minor mistakes in their definitions. | Uses a variety of science vocabulary correctly. |
| Style and Organization | Formal style is not present. Complete sentences are not used. There is no specific focus. There are major grammatical mistakes. There are no transitions between ideas. There is no clarity in the writing. | Formal style is inconsistent. Complete sentences are used but informal language is present. Main ideas are clear, but stray from the claim. Some grammatical mistakes are made. Transitions are used but do not connect ideas. | Formal style reflects an objective tone. Creates a logical structure with complete sentences and paragraphs. Focus is always on the claim. Grammar is used correctly. Transitions clarify relationships. |
| Concluding Statement | No concluding statement present that summarizes the argument. | Provides a sense of closure. Concluding statement is present but the statement does not reflect the argument presented. | Concluding statement supports the argument and major ideas are developed. Statements are not repeated and implications explained.  |
| Sources | No reference list provided. | Reference lists is in APA format with minor mistakes. | Reference list is in APA format and in-text citations are included in the body. |

2 Things you did well on: 2 Things you need to work on: