

# **Middle School** **Argumentative Writing Rubric**

## 5 Habits of Great Writers: Idea, Evidence, Organization, Language, Conventions

<p><b>100% (A)</b> 4 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Has a clear, focused, and compelling claim that unites the piece</b></li> <li>• Consistently chooses the most illuminating and relevant evidence to support the claim</li> <li>• Consistently groups related evidence to build momentum and prove the claim</li> <li>• Includes clear, simple, and elegant language with no redundancy</li> <li>• Grammar and spelling exceed grade-level expectations</li> </ul>
<p><b>85% (B)</b> 3 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Has a clear and accurate claim that unites the piece</b></li> <li>• Chooses relevant evidence to support the claim</li> <li>• Groups related evidence in a way that sufficiently proves the claim</li> <li>• Includes clear, precise language with minimal redundancy</li> <li>• Grammar and spelling meet grade-level expectations</li> </ul>
<p><b>70% (C)</b> 2 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gestures toward a claim, but the claim is not sufficiently explicit or clear. Therefore, the argument is unfocused</b></li> <li>• Supporting evidence is weak because it is vague, irrelevant, repetitive, or not compelling</li> <li>• Occasionally groups related evidence, but the structure and organization of the piece does not propel the argument forward</li> <li>• Language contains redundancies and lacks precision</li> <li>• Grammar and spelling is below grade-level expectations</li> </ul>
<p><b>55% (F)</b> 1 point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The argument is only minimally correct or clear</b></li> <li>• Includes little to no relevant evidence</li> <li>• Lacks organization and structure</li> <li>• Uses imprecise language and convoluted sentences, and demonstrates little command over language</li> <li>• Grammar and spelling is below grade-level expectations</li> </ul>
<p><b>0% (F)</b> 0 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The argument is completely inaccurate or incomprehensible</b></li> <li>• Lacks grade-appropriate professionalism and must be re-done</li> </ul>