## Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

**Grade 7 Argumentative/Persuasive Standard Based Rubric** 

Exceeds Standard Meets Standard Nearly Meets Standard Below Standard				
4	3	2	1	
A clear thesis sentence is apparent that introduces an insightful claim directly and effectively which also previews the topics for the following paragraphs.  The introduction acknowledges the difference between an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have the clear focused topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.	A clear thesis sentence is apparent that introduces the claim and previews topics for the following paragraphs.  The introduction acknowledges an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have the topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.	A thesis sentence is apparent but the claim is unclear or does not preview the topics for the following paragraphs.  There is no acknowledgment of an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have vague or nonexistent topics or the topics were not previewed.	No thesis sentence is apparent or does not present a claim.  No introduction is present.  Paragraphs lack any topic.	
Each topic is supported with 3 or more relevant pieces of on topic evidence from a credible source or text with some explanation to prove claim.	Each topic is supported with 3 pieces of relevant on topic evidence from a credible source or text.	Each topic is supported with less than 3 pieces of relevant on topic pieces of evidence or the source is not credible.	The topics are not supported with relevant credible evidence.	
3-4 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  The essay is ended by a statement that summarizes the thesis sentence and finishes the essay in a skillful way.	Fewer than 3 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  The essay is ended by a restatement of the thesis sentence and finishes the essay in a logical way but abrupt way.	Repetitive transitions words, phrases, or clauses are used or are not used correctly.  The essay is ended with a restatement of the thesis sentence but ends abruptly.	No transition are used.  The essay has no conclusion.	
	that introduces an insightful claim directly and effectively which also previews the topics for the following paragraphs.  The introduction acknowledges the difference between an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have the clear focused topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.  Each topic is supported with 3 or more relevant pieces of on topic evidence from a credible source or text with some explanation to prove claim.  3-4 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  The essay is ended by a statement that summarizes the thesis sentence and finishes the essay in a skillful	A clear thesis sentence is apparent that introduces an insightful claim directly and effectively which also previews the topics for the following paragraphs.  The introduction acknowledges the difference between an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have the clear focused topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.  Each topic is supported with 3 or more relevant pieces of on topic evidence from a credible source or text with some explanation to prove claim.  Ba-4 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  Fewer than 3 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  Fewer than 3 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  Fewer than 3 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  The essay is ended by a statement that summarizes the thesis sentence and finishes the essay in a logical way but	A clear thesis sentence is apparent that introduces an insightful claim directly and effectively which also previews the topics for the following paragraphs.  The introduction acknowledges the difference between an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have the clear focused topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.  Paragraphs have the clear focused topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.  Paragraphs have the clear focused topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.  Paragraphs have the topics for the following paragraphs.  The introduction acknowledges the difference between an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have the topics for the following paragraphs.  The introduction acknowledges an opposing claim.  Paragraphs have the topics that were previewed in the thesis sentence.  Paragraphs have vague or nonexistent topics or the topics were not previewed.  Each topic is supported with 3 pieces of relevant on topic evidence from a credible source or text with some explanation to prove claim.  3-4 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  Fewer than 3 varied transition words, phrases, or clauses are found throughout the essay and are used correctly.  The essay is ended by a statement that summarizes the thesis sentence and finishes the essay in a skillful way.	

Style and Sentence Structure W 7.1d Establish and maintain a formal style.	Formal and some figurative language is found throughout the essay	Formal language is found throughout the essay but includes no figurative language.	1-2 pieces of informal language (i.e. slang) are used in the essay.	More than 2 pieces of informal language (slang) are used throughout the essay.
L. 7.6 Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases.	Specific, relevant, and authoritative 7 <sup>th</sup> grade language is used that enhances the claim.	Specific, relevant, and authoritative (i.e. no "I think") 7 <sup>th</sup> grade language is used that supports the claim.	Specific, relevant, and authoritative 7 <sup>th</sup> grade language is used most of the time.	Specific, relevant, and/or authoritative 7 <sup>th</sup> grade language is rarely used.
L. 7.1.b Choose among simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences to signal differing relationships among ideas.	Uses multiple sentence types throughout the essay for creativity and reader's interest.	Uses 2-3 sentence types per paragraph.	Uses 2-3 sentence types in the whole essay and not per paragraph	No variety between simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences
Conventions				
L 7.1.c  Place phrases and clauses within a sentence, recognizing and correcting misplaced and dangling modifiers.  L 7.2  Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation.  • Use commas to separate coordinate adjectives  • Spell correctly	There are no run-ons or fragments.  There are 1-2 mistakes with punctuation, capitalization, or spelling that do not hinder meaning.	There are 1-2 run-ons or fragments.  There are 3-4 mistakes in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling and do not hinder meaning.	There are 3 or more run-ons or fragments and/or hinder meaning.  There are more than 4 mistakes in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling and/or slightly hinder meaning.	There are run-ons and fragments throughout that hinder meaning.  Mistakes with commas, punctuation, and spelling are found throughout and greatly hinder meaning.

Alaska State Standards alignment ("W" = Writing strand; "L" = Language strand)