



Mississippi Academic Assessment Program
Draft Grade 8 Argument

Writer's Checklist

In my response, I made sure to:

- introduce and clearly establish my claim(s) and/or position on a topic using logical reasons, commentary, and well-chosen evidence from the source material(s).
- organize information in a way that makes sense for the specific purpose and audience.
- use a formal style that is consistent and appropriate for my purpose and audience.
- Include a counterclaim and a rebuttal.
- credit my sources when quoting or paraphrasing information.
- elaborate on my reasons and ideas using multiple techniques to support my claim(s).
- use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationship between my claim(s) and reasons.
- provide an effective concluding statement that clearly states my perspective.
- use complete sentences and a variety of sentence structures.
- use active and passive voice correctly.
- use correct verb tense and subject-verb agreement.
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.



Writer's Checklist

In my response, I made sure to:

- introduce and explain a topic clearly.
- organize information using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, or cause/effect to organize my ideas.
- develop my topic with evidence and commentary from the provided source(s).
- use appropriate and varied transitions to clarify relationships among ideas and concepts.
- provide an effective concluding statement related to my topic.
- establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone.
- use complete sentences and a variety of sentence structures.
- use active and passive voice correctly.
- use correct verb tense and subject-verb agreement.
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.



Writer's Checklist

In my response, I made sure to:

- engage the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters.
- organize the sequence of events logically.
- develop a plot, characters, and/or a setting.
- include specific and relevant details from the source(s).
- use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, flashback, and pacing to show how characters respond to situations.
- establish clear, logical, and consistent relationships among events and characters.
- use precise words, phrases, and sensory details to vividly describe events.
- use a variety of transitional words, phrases, and clauses to show a sequence of events or signal a shift from one time frame or setting to another.
- use a variety of sentence structures.
- use correct verb tense and subject-verb agreement.
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.