## Argument Opinion Standard Referenced Rubric 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

	Exceeds Standard 4	Meets Standard 3	Nearly Meets Standard 2	Below Standard 1
Ideas and Organization Establishes context and purpose  6.W.1a Introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information into purposeful, coherent paragraphs.	The student directly and creatively addresses the prompt by introducing the claim(s), acknowledging alternate or opposing claims and organizes the reasons and evidence logically.  Paragraphs have clear, insightful reasons with relevant, accurate and logical evidence that support that claim.	The student answers the prompt directly by introducing the claim(s), and organizes the reasons and evidence clearly.  Paragraphs have clear topics with details that support that topic.	The student introduces the claim, but does not directly answer the prompt, and/or does not organize the reasons and evidence clearly.  Paragraphs have vague or nonexistent topics and details do not always support topics.	A claim is not introduced, and/or the reasons and evidence are not organized clearly.  Paragraphs lack any topic and/or have random thoughts.
Content and Development  Demonstrates critical thinking in order to develop the topic  6.W.1b, 6.W.9b Support the claim(s) with clear reasons and accurate, relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.	Each claim is supported with three or more clear and accurate reasons, and/or relevant evidence cited from credible sources.	Each claim is supported with three clear and accurate reasons, and/or relevant evidence.	Each claim is supported with fewer than three relevant/accurate evidence.	The claims are not explained with relevant/accurate evidence.
Transitions and Conclusions 6.W.1c Use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.	Uses two or more varied transition words or phrases within a paragraph which connect the related ideas and details.	Uses two transition words or phrases within a paragraph which connect the related ideas and details.	Uses one transition word or phrase within a paragraph which connect the related ideas and details.	Uses no transition words.
<b>6.W.1f</b> Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented.	The essay is ended by a concluding statement that follows from the information or explanation presented in a skillful way.	The essay is ended by a concluding statement that follows from the information or explanation presented.	The essay is ended by a concluding statement that partially follows from the information or explanation presented.	The essay has no concluding statement that follows from the information or explanation presented.

Language, Style and Sentence Structure  6.W.1d Establish and maintain a formal style.  6.L.3a Vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.  6.L.6 Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.	Skillfully uses precise, relevant, and authoritative sixth grade academic vocabulary.  Formal language is used throughout the essay.  Uses multiple sentence types throughout the essay for creativity and reader's interest.	Frequently uses accurate and precise sixth grade academic vocabulary.  Formal language is used through most of the essay.  Uses 1-2 sentence types per paragraph.	Uses general or non-academic vocabulary.  Some formal language is used.  Uses 1-2 sentence types in the essay.	Uses inaccurate vocabulary.  Informal language (slang) is used throughout the essay.  Uses no variety in sentence structure.
Conventions  6.L.1  Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage.  6.L.2  Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation.  • Use punctuation.  • Use punctuation, including commas, parentheses, and dashes correctly.  • Spell correctly	Pronouns are used correctly. Student demonstrates correct use of clauses most of the time. (7 <sup>th</sup> grade standard.)  There are no noticeable mistakes in capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.	Pronouns are used correctly. Grammar does not hinder meaning.  Mistakes in capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are limited and do not hinder meaning.	Pronouns, if used, are sometimes correct. Grammar hinders meaning.  Mistakes in capitalization, punctuation, and spelling occasionally hinder meaning.	Pronouns, if used, are used incorrectly. Misuse of grammar significantly hinders meaning.  Mistakes with capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are found throughout and greatly hinder meaning.