	Argument	Evidence and Organization	Word Choice and Conventions
4	 Effectively introduces a claim Acknowledges and counters opposing claims, as appropriate 	 Uses logical, credible, and relevant reasoning and evidence to support claim Uses organizational strategy to present reasons and relevant evidence Provides a strong concluding statement or section that logically follows from the ideas presented 	 Uses precise and purposeful word choice Uses words, phrases, and/or clauses that effectively connect and show relationships among ideas Uses and maintains an appropriate tone Has no errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning
3	 Clearly introduces a claim Attempts to acknowledge and/or counter opposing claims, as appropriate 	 Uses reasoning and evidence to support claim Uses an organizational structure to present reasons and relevant evidence Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from the ideas presented 	 Uses clear word choice Uses words and phrases to connect ideas Uses an appropriate tone Has few, if any, errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning
2	 Attempts to establish a claim Makes little, if any, attempt to acknowledge or counter opposing claims 	 Develops, sometimes unevenly, reasons and evidence to support claim Attempts to use an organizational structure Provides weak concluding statement or section 	 Uses basic language, which sometimes lacks clarity May have errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning
1	 Weakly or indirectly states a claim Makes no attempt to acknowledge or counter opposing claims 	 Has minimal support for claim May be too brief to demonstrate an organizational structure Provides a minimal or no concluding statement or section 	 Uses words that are inappropriate, overly simple, or unclear Has errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning