

Writing Standard 1 – Kindergarten through 12th Grades

Kindergarten	W.K.1 Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose opinion pieces in which they tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book (e.g., My favorite book is . . .)
1 st Grade	W.1.1 Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion and provide some sense of closure.
2 nd Grade	W.2.1 Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons and provide a concluding statement or section.
3 rd Grade	W.3.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons. W.3.1.a Know the difference between fact and opinion W.3.1.b Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion and create an organizational structure that lists reasons. W.3.1.c Provide reasons that support the opinion. W.3.1.d Use transition words and phrases (e.g., because, therefore, since, for example) to connect opinion and reasons. W.3.1.e. Provide a concluding statement or section.
4 th Grade	W.4.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information. W.4.1.a Know the difference between fact and opinion. W.4.1.b Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer’s purpose. W.4.1.c Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details. W.4.1.d Use transition words and phrases to connect opinion and reasons. W.4.1.e Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.
5 th Grade	W.5.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information. W.5.1.a Know the difference between fact and opinion. W.5.1.b Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion and create an organizational structure in which ideas are logically grouped to support the writer’s purpose. W.5.1.c Provide logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details. W.5.1.d Link opinion and reasons using words, phrases and clauses (e.g., consequently, specifically). W.5.1.e Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.

6 th Grade	W.6.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. W.6.1.a Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly. W.6.1.b Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text. W.6.1.c Use words, phrases and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons. W.6.1.d Establish and maintain a formal style. W.6.1.e Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.
7 th Grade	W.7.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. W.7.1.a Introduce claim(s), acknowledge alternate or opposing claims and organize the reasons and evidence logically. W.7.1.b Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text. W.7.1.c Use words, phrases and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons and evidence. W.7.1.d Establish and maintain a formal style. W.7.1.e Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
8 th Grade	W.8.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. W.8.1.a Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims and organize the reasons and evidence logically. W.8.1.b Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text. W.8.1.c Use words, phrases and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence. W.8.1.d Establish and maintain a formal style. W.8.1.e Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
9 th -10 th Grades	W.9-10.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. W.9-10.1.a Introduce precise claims, distinguish the claims from alternate or opposing claims and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claims, counterclaims, reasons and evidence. W.9-10.1.b Develop claims and counterclaims fairly, supporting evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns. W.9-10.1.c Use words, phrases and clauses to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion and clarify the relationships between claims and reasons, between reasons and evidence and between claims and counterclaims. W.9-10.1.d Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing. W.9-10.1.e Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

11th-12th Grades	W.11-12.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. W.11-12.1.a Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence. W.11-12.1.b Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values and possible biases. W.11-12.1.c Use words, phrases and clauses, as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence and between claim(s) and counterclaims. W.11-12.1.d Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing. W.11-12.1.e Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
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