

Common Core Argument Rubric 6-8 Social Studies

	Superior	Commendable	Adequate	Barely Adequate
Focus and Claim	Writer introduces the subject, giving specific historical background for the reader to follow the interpretation he/she offers in response to the prompt and presents a precise claim.	Writer introduces the subject, giving some historical background for the reader to follow the interpretation he/she offers in response to the prompt and presents a solid claim.	Writer introduces the subject, giving some historical context and presents a claim that may or may not specifically respond to the prompt	Writer mainly summarizes historical content without specifically responding to the prompt and/or providing a claim
Evidence/ Concrete Detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writer thoughtfully chooses relevant quotes, paraphrases, data, and/or evidence to support claim with logical reasoning • Demonstrates thorough understanding of the topic or text; uses credible sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writer chooses mostly relevant quotes, paraphrases, data, and/or evidence to support claim • Demonstrates understanding of the topic or text; uses credible sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writer chooses some relevant quotes, paraphrases, data, and/or evidence to support claim • Demonstrates some understanding of the topic or text; uses credible sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writer has difficulty choosing relevant quotes, paraphrases, data, and/or evidence to support claims • Needs to use credible sources consistently
Citations	Writer correctly and consistently uses MLA format of citation for evidence	Writer correctly and consistently uses MLA format of citation for evidence	Writer mostly uses MLA format of citation for evidence	Writer lacks correct MLA citation format
Commentary/ Content Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commentary contains original explanation and strong analysis of the evidence • Demonstrates mastery of historical content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commentary contains some explanation of the evidence and analysis • Offers strong understanding of historical content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commentary simply restates the evidence and offers little to no analysis • Demonstrates partial understanding of historical content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commentary doesn't support evidence or demonstrate analysis • Demonstrates minimal understanding of historical content
Counterclaim	Successfully addresses counterclaims throughout paper to enhance writer's claim	Clearly acknowledges and discusses counterclaims	Acknowledges counterclaims	Writer unsuccessfully acknowledges counterclaims

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Organization, Mechanics, and Structure

Writer produces clear and coherent writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience; *(Writer consistently uses topic sentences, proper grammar, transition between ideas, transitions between paragraphs, concluding sentences, and proper paragraph format as appropriate for assignment, formal style)*

Writer produces mostly clear and coherent writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience; *(Writer uses topic sentence, proper grammar, transition between ideas, transitions between paragraphs, concluding sentences, and proper paragraph format as appropriate for assignment, formal style)*

Writer produces mostly clear and coherent writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience; *(Writer inconsistently uses topic sentences, proper grammar, transition between ideas, transitions between paragraphs, concluding sentences, and proper paragraph format as appropriate for assignment, formal style)*

Writer attempts to address the task, purpose, and audience; *(Writer is lacking some of the following: topic sentences, proper grammar, transition between ideas, transitions between paragraphs, concluding sentences, and proper paragraph format as appropriate for assignment, formal style)*

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Little to Minimal Evidence of Achievement

Writer dives into the response without an introduction, background, and/or claim

- Writer summarizes without using relevant quotes, paraphrases, data, and/or evidence to support claim

Writer lacks citations

Writer lacks commentary, analysis, and historical content

Writer lacks acknowledgement of counterclaim

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Writer lacks
acknowledgement of task,
purpose, audience *as well*
as proper grammar and
paragraph structure