

KEYSTONE ARGUMENTATIVE SCORING GUIDELINES

Scoring Domain	Score Point 4 At this score point, the writer—	Score Point 3 At this score point, the writer—	Score Point 2 At this score point, the writer—	Score Point 1 At this score point, the writer—	Score Point 0 At this score point, the writer—
Thesis/Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes and sustains a precise claim or position displays a clear understanding of task, purpose, and audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a claim or position displays an understanding of task, purpose, and audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides an inconsistent claim or position displays an inadequate understanding of task, purpose, and audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides vague or indistinct claim or position displays a limited understanding of task, purpose, and audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides no evidence of claim or position displays no understanding of task, purpose, and audience does not respond to prompt
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> chooses sophisticated organizational strategies appropriate for task, purpose, and audience presents fair and relevant evidence to support claim or position includes a clear and well-defined introduction, body, and conclusion that support or reinforce the argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> chooses appropriate organizational strategies for task, purpose, and audience presents relevant evidence to support claim or position includes a clear introduction, body, and a conclusion that support the argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> displays little evidence of organizational strategies presents insufficient evidence to support claim or position may not include an introduction, body, and conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> displays little to no evidence of organizational strategies presents little or no evidence to support claim or position may not include an identifiable introduction, body, and conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> displays no evidence of organizational strategies presents no evidence to support claim or position does not include an identifiable introduction, body, and conclusion does not respond to prompt
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides relevant content and specific and effective supporting details that demonstrate a clear understanding of purpose uses sophisticated transitional words, phrases, and clauses to link ideas and create cohesion considers counterclaims (alternate or opposing arguments) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides relevant content and effective supporting details uses transitional words, phrases, and clauses to link ideas acknowledges counterclaims (alternate or opposing arguments) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides insufficient content and ineffective supporting details may use simplistic and/or illogical transitional expressions may not acknowledge counterclaims (alternate or opposing arguments) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides minimal content uses few or no transitional expressions to link ideas does not acknowledge counterclaims (alternate or opposing arguments) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides little to no content does not use transitions to link ideas does not respond to prompt
Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses consistently precise language and a wide variety of sentence structures chooses an effective style and tone, and maintains a consistent point of view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses precise language and a variety of sentence structures chooses an appropriate style, tone, and point of view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses imprecise language and a limited variety of sentence structures may choose an inappropriate style or tone, and may shift point of view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses simplistic or repetitious language and limited sentence structures demonstrates little or no understanding of tone or point of view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses repetitious language and simple sentence structure demonstrates no understanding of style, tone, or point of view does not respond to prompt