

FSPS Opinion Writing Criteria - Grade 6

Writing Criteria: E

Key Skills and Understanding

CC.W.6.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Opinion Writing: Opinion writing states an opinion and gives valid reasons to support that opinion.

Grade 6

Ideas/Research

Reflects research and planning to support a claim

Bases writing on evidence

Gathers and uses information from multiple sources

Lists/cites sources

Organization/Text Features

Includes a title that reflects the topic

States a claim that demonstrates an understanding of topic/text

Supports claim with clearly organized reasons and relevant evidence

Provides clear explanation/analysis of how evidence supports claim(s)

Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented

Language Style

Shows a clear, logical claim throughout the piece

Writes information in his or her own words

Uses words, phrases, and clauses appropriately to connect evidence to claim

Uses purposeful and varied sentence structures

Uses grade level academic and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for the audience and purpose

Establishes and maintains a formal style

Note. Adapted from *Explorations in Nonfiction Writing: Grade K* (p. 162), by T. Stead and L. Hoyt, 2011, Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

Mentor Text

Mentor Text:

1. <http://www.readandwritewithrebecca.com/Mentor-Texts.html>
2. <http://www.nwp.org/cs/public/print/resource/4090>
3. <http://pinterest.com/sguevara1/mentor-text/>
4. <http://www.hallco.org/literacy/index.php?view=article&id=7%3>

Student Exemplars

Student Writing Exemplars:

1. <http://www.monet.k12.ca.us/curriculum/EnglishLA/writing/writing%20samples/samples.html>

Lesson Resources

Lesson Plans & Resources:

1. <http://maisdwritingunitsccss.wikispaces.com/MAISA+6th-12th+Argument+Units>

Rubrics:

1. <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=371407>
2. <http://www.rcampus.com/rubricshowc.cfm?sp=yes&code=N82C79&>

Graphic Organizers:

1. <http://www.msbelnavis.com/files/planning%20page%20argumentative%206th%20energy.pdf>
2. <http://images.epals.com/elections/Argument%20writing%20graphic%20organizer%20for%20grades%207-8.pdf>
3. http://moodle.center.k12.mo.us/pluginfile.php/22030/mod_resource/content/3/Argument%20graphic%20organizer.pdf

Sample Unit

1. <http://terrillenglish.weebly.com/argument-essay-unit.html>

Professional Text:

1. Houston, G. (2004). *How Writing Works*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc.
2. Owocki, G. (2013). *The Common Core Writing Book*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann
3. Stead, T. & Hoyt, Linda. (2011). *Explorations in Nonfiction Writing*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann