

8th Grade ELA Argument Writing

Time Frame: 4-5 weeks	Unit Title: Argument Writing	Course Name: 8th Grade Language Arts	
Stage 1: Desired Results			
Established Goal(s)	Transfer		
<p>Department Competencies Addressed: <i>Students will practice the ability to...</i></p> <p>2. Reading Informational Texts: students are able to closely read and annotate an informational text, infer the author's intent and cite textual evidence to support their understanding.</p> <p>3. Analytical Writing (Argumentative, Analysis, Explanatory Writing): students are able to develop and support a thesis with purposefully integrated evidence in an organized and compelling manner.</p> <p>5. Research: students are able to quote or paraphrase evidence while avoiding plagiarism while citing accurately (in-text citations and works cited).</p> <p>6. Speaking & Listening: students are able to communicate effectively and respectfully using viewing, listening, and speaking skills for a range of purposes and audiences.</p> <p>7. Technology: students are able to make strategic and ethical use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphic, audio, visual, and interactive elements) to add interest for the intended audience.</p> <p>8. Vocabulary: students are able to define, understand, and apply grade-level vocabulary to a variety of tasks</p> <p>Standards Addressed: <i>Students will practice the ability to...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas.(CCSS.RI.8.2) ● Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints. (CCSS.RI.8.6) ● Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced. (CCSS.RI.8.8) ● Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. (CCSS.W.8.1) ● Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically. (CCSS.W.8.1a) ● Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources. (CCSS.W.8.1b) ● Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (CCSS.W.8.4) ● Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources. (CCSS.W.8.7) ● Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation. (CCSS.W.8.8) ● Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed. (CCSS.SL.8.1b) ● Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented. (CCSS.SL.8.1d) ● Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of the reasoning and relevance and sufficiency of the evidence and identifying when irrelevant evidence is introduced. (CCSS.SL.8.3) ● Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation. (CCSS.SL.8.4) ● Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest. (CCSS.SL.8.5) ● Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (CCSS.SL.8.6) <p>Habits of Mind/Professionalism: <i>Students will practice the ability to...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bring required materials to class ● Participate in class discussions & group work respectfully ● Attentively listen to others ● Complete assignments thoroughly, thoughtfully, and on time ● Treat others with kindness ● Use class time and resources productively and respectfully 	<p><i>Students will be able to independently use their learning to...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State a claim ● Support a claim with relevant evidence ● Anticipate a counterclaim ● Provide a relevant rebuttal to the counterclaim 		
		Meaning	
		<p>Understandings <i>Students will understand that...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Many important decisions in life require a strong ability to argue your case, provide evidence, and understand counterclaims. ● Claims are supported by providing and explaining relevant evidence, as well as by addressing of counterclaims. ● Listening is crucial to preparing a solid argument. 	<p>Essential Questions <i>Students will consider...</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What makes an argument/claim strong? 2. How can a claim be thoroughly explained and supported through writing? 3. How does anticipating resistance (the counterclaim) strengthen an argument? 4. What role does author's purpose and perspective play in a written piece? 5. What is bias and how is it recognized? 6. What is the difference between fact and opinion? 7. How does considering the audience affect a piece of writing?
	Acquisition		
	<p><i>Students will know...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The structure of a debate ● The importance of providing support in an argument ● How to identify claims, counterclaims, and rebuttals ● The definitions of the following terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tone ○ Mood ○ Pro ○ Con ○ Bias ○ Claim ○ Counterclaim ○ Rebuttal 	<p><i>Students will be able to...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Define and apply argument terms ● Provide textual evidence to support claims about both literary & informational texts ● Write a well-developed argument ● Consider an audience when producing argument writing ● Anticipate possible counterclaims and support rebuttals using relevant evidence ● Debate an issue verbally ● Use research to find relevant information to support an argument ● Paraphrase research ● Draw conclusions from research ● Speak publicly 	