Standard W.5.1

W.5.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

- a. 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.
- b. Provide logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details.
- Link opinion and reasons using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., consequently, specifically).
- d. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.

Standard W.6.1

- **W.6.1** Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
 - a. Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.
 - Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
 - c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.
 - d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
 - e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.

Standard W.7.1

- **W.7.1** Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
 - a. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
 - b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
 - Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence.
 - d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
 - e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

Concepts

What students need to know (nouns and noun phrases)

- Arguments and claims
- Supported Claims
 - Clear reasons
 - o Relevant evidence
 - o Credible sources
 - Understanding of topic or texts
- Words, phrases and clauses
 - Relationships among claim{s} and reasons
- Formal style
- Concluding statement or section

Skills

What students need to be able to do (Verbs)

- WRITE
- INTRODUCE
 - o ORGANIZE
- SUPPORT
 - o USING
 - DDEMONSTRATING
- USE
 - o CLARIFY
- ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN
- PROVIDE

Key Vocabulary (Academic and domain-specific)

Argument*

Relevant

(relevant) Reasons

Clear

(clear) Evidence*

Claim*

Support*

Credible

(Credible) sources*

Formal style*

Example of Hand-out 2.1: Deconstructing Standard W.6 for Facilitator Use

Instructional Implications

Assessments (Pre/formative/post)

Assessing and connecting to background knowledge

Use what students know about:

- Opinions as a basis for writing arguments
- Logically ordering reasons so they can move to supporting claims
- Use SL5.3 to connect to background knowledge on how to summarize the points a speaker makes anyhow each claim is supported by reasons and evidence

Related Standards

- SL6.3, SL.6.4 and RI6.8

Resources and Strategies

Materials/texts, activities and coordinating resources

- Use both student writing samples from Appendix C as model papers. Ask students to use the rubric to grade the papers.
- Provide examples of weak and strong papers. Ask students to identify the weak and strong and provide reasons based on the criteria
- Working with partners, have students improve the weak paper so that it would be considered a proficient piece of student work.
- Use magazine articles, newspapers, content materials, and other short text for models
- Collaborate with content area teachers tin developing a cross-curricular focus on writing arguments (Ex. WHST6-8.1)

Interventions/Extensions

- Graphic organizers
- Have students orally discuss claims and evidence prior to writing
- Have student work in small groups and/or with partner to write arguments