

Seven-Point, Two-Trait Rubric

Trait 2 for Argumentative Genre

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
Language Usage and Conventions <i>This trait examines the writer's ability to demonstrate control of sentence formation, usage, and mechanics as embodied in the grade-level expectations of the language standards.</i>	3	<i>The student's response demonstrates full command of language usage and conventions.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively varies sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style Shows command of language and conventions when writing Any errors in usage and conventions do not interfere with meaning*
	2	<i>The student's response demonstrates partial command of language usage and conventions.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varies some sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style Shows some knowledge of language and conventions when writing Has minor errors in usage and conventions with no significant effect on meaning*
	1	<i>The student's response demonstrates weak command of language usage and conventions.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has fragments, run-ons, and/or other sentence structure errors Shows little knowledge of language and conventions when writing Has frequent errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning*
	0	<i>The student's response is flawed for various reasons and will receive a condition code:</i> The condition codes can be found on page 79 of this guide.

*Students are responsible for language conventions learned in their current grade as well as in prior grades. Refer to the language skills for each grade to determine the grade-level expectations for grammar, syntax, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Also refer to the "Language Progressive Skills, by Grade" chart in Appendix A for those standards that need continued attention beyond the grade in which they were introduced.