

STATE ASSESSMENT RUBRICS

NJSLA-A Grade 9 and NJGPA-A Argumentative Rubric

Grades 9-12 15 points total 3 criteria NJ State assessment rubrics

The NJ NJSLA-A Grade 9 and NJGPA-A Argumentative Rubric scored out of 15 points across 3 criteria, for argumentative writing at grades 9-12.

SOURCE AND ATTRIBUTION

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<https://nj.portal.cambiumast.com/content/contentresources/en/Writing%20Rubrics%20for%20the%20NJSLA-A%20and%20the%20NJGPA-A.pdf>

How it is scored

CRITERION	POINTS	LEVELS
Ideas and Focus	5	5
Organization	5	5
Expression and Word Choice	5	5
Total	15	

The full rubric

Ideas and Focus · 5 points

SCORE	WHAT EARNS IT
5 pts	Focused response, clear understanding of task and purpose. Characteristics: a precise claim that is distinguished from alternate or opposing claims; relevant and sufficient textual evidence used in analysis of a topic to clearly support a claim; valid, sound reasoning that clearly develops claims and counterclaims; clearly explains the strengths and limitations of claims and counterclaims.
4 pts	Mostly focused response, general understanding of task and purpose. Characteristics: a precise claim that is generally distinguished from alternate or opposing claims; relevant and sufficient textual evidence used in analysis of a topic to generally support a claim; sound reasoning that generally develops claims and counterclaims; generally explains the strengths or limitations of claims and counterclaims.
3 pts	Basic response, some understanding of task and purpose. Characteristics: a precise claim that is somewhat distinguished from an opposing claim; relevant textual evidence used in analysis of a topic to somewhat support a claim; reasoning that somewhat develops claims and counterclaims; somewhat explains the strengths of claims or counterclaims.

SCORE	WHAT EARNS IT
2 pts	Limited response, partial understanding of task and purpose. Characteristics: a claim that is partially distinguished from an opposing claim; relevant textual evidence used to partially support a claim; limited reasoning that attempts to develop a claim; attempts to explain the strengths of claims.
1 pt	Minimally written response, minimal understanding of task and purpose. Characteristics: a minimal, missing, or unclear claim; minimal, missing, or unclear supporting textual evidence; minimal, missing, or unclear reasoning; minimal or no explanation of claims.

Organization · 5 points

SCORE	WHAT EARNS IT
5 pts	Focused response. Characteristics: introduces a claim and creates an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence; transitions that clearly link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim and reasons, evidence, and counterclaims; a concluding section that clearly supports the argument presented.
4 pts	Mostly focused response. Characteristics: introduces a claim and creates an organization that generally establishes relationships among claim, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence; transitions that generally link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim and reasons, evidence, and counterclaims; a concluding section that generally supports the argument presented.
3 pts	Basic response. Characteristics: introduces a claim and creates an organization that somewhat establishes relationships among claim, reasons, and evidence; transitions that somewhat link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, or clarify the relationships between claim and reasons, evidence, or counterclaims; a concluding section that somewhat supports the argument presented.
2 pts	Limited response. Characteristics: attempts to introduce a claim or create an organization to establish relationships between claim and reasons; transitions that attempt to link the major sections of the text; an attempted concluding statement that partially supports the argument presented.
1 pt	Minimally written response. Characteristics: a minimal or no introduction of a claim or connection between claim and reasons; minimal or no transitions to link sections of the text; a minimal or no concluding statement.

Expression and Word Choice · 5 points

SCORE	WHAT EARNS IT
5 pts	Focused response. Characteristics: establishment and maintenance of a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose.
4 pts	Mostly focused response. Characteristics: establishment and general maintenance of a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose.
3 pts	Basic response. Characteristics: basic establishment and maintenance of a style and tone somewhat appropriate to the purpose.
2 pts	Limited response. Characteristics: attempted establishment of style or tone.
1 pt	Minimally written response. Characteristics: minimal or unclear style or tone.

Scoring record

Student	Assignment	Date
CRITERION	SCORE	COMMENTS
Ideas and Focus	/ 5	
Organization	/ 5	
Expression and Word Choice	/ 5	
Total	/ 15	

Free to print and share. The readable version, and a grader that scores an essay against this rubric, are at nudgelearn.app/rubrics/njsla-a-g9-njgpa-argumentative