

STATE ASSESSMENT RUBRICS

STAAR Grades 3-5 Extended Constructed Response (ECR) — Argument/Opinion Writing Rubric

Grades 3-5 5 points total 2 criteria TX State assessment rubrics

The TX STAAR Grades 3-5 Extended Constructed Response (ECR) — Argument/Opinion Writing Rubric scored out of 5 points across 2 criteria, for argumentative, opinion writing at grades 3-5.

SOURCE AND ATTRIBUTION

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https://esc13.net/assets/uploads/docs/resources/r13_staar_ria_extended_constructed_response_rubrics_2024-2025.pdf

How it is scored

CRITERION	POINTS	LEVELS
Development and Organization of Ideas	3	4
Conventions	2	3
Total	5	

The full rubric

Development and Organization of Ideas · 3 points

SCORE	WHAT EARNS IT
3 pts	Argument/Opinion: Clear and fully developed — clearly identifiable, focus is consistent, response is unified and easy to follow. Organization: Effective — purposeful structure, effective introduction and conclusion, appropriate and supports development of the idea, sentences/paragraphs/ideas connected purposefully and highly effectively. Evidence: Specific, well chosen, and relevant — text-based, clearly explained, consistently supports the argument/opinion (for paired texts, evidence drawn from both texts), reflective of a thorough understanding of the writing purpose. Expression of Ideas: Clear and effective — word choice is specific, purposeful, and enhances the response; almost all sentences and phrases are crafted to convey the writer's ideas and contribute to the overall quality of the response.
2 pts	Argument/Opinion: Present and partially developed — presented but not clearly identifiable or fully developed, focus is inconsistent, response not easy to follow. Organization: Limited — purposeful but inconsistent structure, introduction and conclusion present, does not support the logical development of ideas, lacking sentence-to-sentence connections and clarity. Evidence: Limited and may include some irrelevant information — some text-based evidence, insufficiently explained or irrelevant (for paired texts, evidence drawn from at least one text), reflective of a partial understanding of the writing purpose. Expression of Ideas: Basic — word choice is general and imprecise and does not clearly convey the writer's ideas; sentences and phrases are ineffective and interfere with the writer's intended meaning and weaken the message.

SCORE	WHAT EARNS IT
1 pt	Argument/Opinion: Evident but not developed — not appropriately developed. Organization: Minimal and/or weak — introduction or conclusion may be present, does not support logical development of ideas, not appropriate to the task. Evidence: Insufficient and/or mostly irrelevant — little is text-based, mostly extraneous and/or repetitious, explanations are insufficient and vaguely related to the task, reflective of a limited understanding of the writing purpose. Expression of Ideas: Ineffective — word choice is vague or limited and impedes the quality and clarity of the essay; sentences and phrases are ineffective, interfere with the writer's intended meaning, and impact the strength and clarity of the message.
0 pts	Argument/Opinion: May be evident. Organization: Lacks an introduction and conclusion; structure is not evident. Evidence: Not provided or is irrelevant; reflective of a lack of understanding of the writing purpose. Expression of Ideas: Unclear and/or incoherent. (A score point of 0 in this trait automatically earns 0 in the Conventions trait.)

Conventions • 2 points

SCORE	WHAT EARNS IT
2 pts	Command: Consistent, correct use of grade-level conventions (sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, spelling). Errors: Few; do not impact the clarity of the writing.
1 pt	Command: Inconsistent, limited use of correct grade-level conventions. Errors: Several; reader can still understand the writer's thoughts.
0 pts	Command: Little to none, limited use of correct grade-level conventions. Errors: Many; impact the clarity of the writing and the reader's understanding.

Scoring record

Student	Assignment	Date
CRITERION	SCORE	COMMENTS
Development and Organization of Ideas	/ 3	
Conventions	/ 2	
Total	/ 5	

Free to print and share. The readable version, and a grader that scores an essay against this rubric, are at nudgelearn.app/rubrics/staar-3-5-ecr-argumentative-opinion