

**RUBRIC FOR GEC GOAL IV: SKILLS REQUIREMENT
(WRITING COMPONENT)
ARGUMENT AND COMPOSITION**

*Definition: Upon successful completion of the writing-intensive requirement, students should be able to articulate a written argument clearly and support it coherently.
Writing Sample and associated prompt will be collected for this assessment.*

Evaluators are encouraged to assign a zero to any work sample or collection of work that does not meet benchmark (cell one) level performance

	Distinguished 3	Proficient 2	Developing 1
Function: Genre and Purpose for Writing <i>Includes considerations of audience, purpose, and the circumstances surrounding the writing task(s).</i>	Demonstrates a thorough understanding of context, audience, and purpose. Evidence includes successful execution of a wide range of conventions particular to the genre and discipline, including organization, presentation, formatting, and stylistic choices.	Demonstrates adequate consideration of context, audience, and purpose. Consistently uses important conventions particular to a specific discipline, including organization.	Demonstrates minimal attention to context, audience, purpose, and to the assigned task(s). At best, shows attempt to use a consistent system for basic organization and presentation, but does not conform to demands of the assignment.
Argument: <i>Analysis of Appropriate Depth</i>	Uses appropriate, relevant, and compelling content to illustrate mastery of the subject, conveying the writer's understanding, and shaping the whole work. Includes strong thesis with a clear and provocative argument. Scholarly discussion of the topic.	Uses appropriate, relevant, and compelling content to explore ideas within the context of the discipline and shape the whole work. Shows some focused coverage of topic. Evidence includes an argument that sufficiently demonstrates a thesis.	Uses appropriate and relevant content to develop simple ideas in some parts of the work. Appears to be hastily written with underdeveloped ideas.
Organization <i>Content coherently arranged and logically developed</i>	Ideas arranged in a logical order. Transitions guide the reader through the argument. Conclusion summarizes main idea and shows import of argument.	Ideas are organized logically. Topic sentences are used to guide the reader. Conclusion restates main idea.	Thesis is missing or writing does not reflect the idea stated in the thesis. Movement among ideas is abrupt or illogical. Paragraphs are incoherent.
Support: <i>Use of sources/evidence</i>	Demonstrates skillful use of high-quality, credible, relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for the discipline and genre. Quotations are limited to striking statements or examples where precise wording is important. Evidence strongly supports interpretation. Supports thesis with evidence from authoritative sources or analysis that is thoroughly and carefully discussed.	Demonstrates consistent use of credible, relevant sources to support ideas that are situated within the discipline and genre. Material from other authors is connected to focus of the paper. Source material is properly understood.	Demonstrates an attempt to use sources to support ideas, but chooses material without clearly demonstrating consequence or significance.
Citation/Academic Honesty: <i>Crediting of sources and evidence</i>	Uses a consistent citation style and adequately credits all sources, including paraphrased and directly quoted ideas	Uses a consistent citation style and credits sources	Material from other authors is used without proper citation
Clarity:	Uses language that skillfully communicates	Uses straightforward language that generally	Uses language that sometimes impedes

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<i>Control of syntax, mechanics, voice, and style</i>	meaning to readers with clarity and fluency, and is virtually error-free. Word choice is precise and sophisticated.	conveys meaning to readers. Language has few errors. Word choice is formal. Sentences vary from complex to simple.	meaning because of sentence-level errors. Word choice is colloquial. Sentence structure simplistic.
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