**Rubric for Persuasive Texts - Grade 9 Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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|  |  | **Fully meeting expectations, with enriched understanding (EU)** | **Fully meeting grade level expectations (FM)** | **Mostly meeting grade level expectations (MM)** | **Not yet meeting grade level expectations (NY)** |
| **Message/**  **Meaning** | **Well-defined thesis** | There was no doubt in the audience’s/ reader’s mind as to your position in your text. You supported your position with highly convincing arguments that addressed your purpose. | You have created a well-defined thesis with the position stated clearly and convincingly. | With assistance, you were able to state your position and provide arguments. More research would provide ideas and evidence to support your argument. Be sure about your purpose. | You needed more assistance to clearly identify your position and outline your key points. What are you trying to say, why are you saying it, and how can you convince others? |
| **Organization** | **Consideration of opposing arguments** | You did an excellent job of thinking on your feet and recognizing your opponents’ arguments. You anticipated concerns and counterclaims in your arguments and addressed biases and expectations with confidence and insight. | You analyzed the oral statements made by your opponents and engaged in dialogue to understand the viewpoint of others. You effectively addressed concerns, biases, expectations and counterclaims. | You needed some help to pick out the arguments made by your opponents. When preparing for a persuasive text, remember to consider what the other side might say. Remember to keep your comments positive and constructive. | When preparing for a persuasive text, ask for help to find information on both sides of the topic. Think about how you would win an argument at home. How can you prepare for opposing views? |
| **Relevant content** | You used clear and concise arguments. Ideas were clearly related to your topic and provided strong evidence to support your position. You used a variety of quality resources. | You supported your position with reasons, facts, examples, explanations and evidence. You used a variety of sources. | With help, you were able to group related ideas and support your argument with some evidence. Ask yourself: does this information relate directly to the argument I am making right now? | You needed more assistance while you were doing your research. How many sources did you find? Were they relevant to your topic? Go back to your graphic organizer to be sure all ideas relate to your topic. Ask for help to find evidence to support your key points. |
| **Strong organization** | Your persuasive text was very well organized. The introduction grabbed the audience’s attention and the conclusion left them thinking. The details in the body contributed in an interesting way to your argument. | You presented your arguments in a logical sequence. In the beginning you identified your position and main arguments. In the middle, you provided supporting evidence and details. In the conclusion, you generalized the comments and arguments presented. | You needed some assistance to organize your text in a logical sequence. Spend more time in the planning stage and ask for feedback on your outline before moving forward. Share your work with a partner to see if it seems to flow well. | Let’s work together to see if we can organize your ideas into a beginning, middle and end. Your graphic organizer will help organize your ideas. |
| **Style and Language Choices** | **Language and tone** | Your skilled use of expressive language and tone contributed to the audience’s/ reader’s engagement. Your language choices and tone were appropriate and effective. | You adjusted your language and tone to suit your audience and purpose. Your tone enhanced the effectiveness of your text. Your language was clear and careful. | You use appropriate language and tone most of the time. Record yourself while speaking or ask for someone to read your text. Are there certain sections that require more emphasis or expression? Is your language always accurate and clear? | Show your interest in your topic by changing your tone of voice. Practicing will make you more comfortable in front of an audience. Record yourself if necessary. What language helps you be more convincing? How can you keep your tone authoritative and still respectful? |

**Feedback:**