Writing Rubric Aligned to CCLS W.1 and MoSL

W.1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Skill		EXCEEDS		MEETS		APPROACHING		NOT YET	
Claim / Position			Establishes a precise and convincing claim while acknowledging the limitations and complexity of the issue/topic		Establishes a precise and credible claim, grounded in evidence and reasoning Addresses all aspects of the task		Establishes a general claim Responds to the task		States a claim Does not completely address the task
Use of evidence	Elaboration		Thoroughly explains reasons why evidence supports claim Uses words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion between claims, reasons, and evidence Consistently refers to sources when appropriate		States how evidence supports claim Uses words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationship between claims, reasons, and evidence Refers to sources when appropriate		Cites evidence with little to no explanation of how it supports claim Uses words, phrases, and clauses to link evidence to reasons, but lacks clarity Rarely refers to sources		Uses very little evidence Evidence is irrelevant or does not support the claim Mentions, but does not cite sources
	Analysis		Analyzes evidence to draw out new meanings and understandings Analyzes counterclaims to explain why the claim is stronger		Analyzes evidence to infer author's meaning and purpose Discusses counterclaims		Analyzes ideas from the texts and begins to interpret the meaning and purpose Makes note of a counterclaim		Summarizes ideas from the text Demonstrates awareness of a counterclaim
Quality of Evidence			Summarizes, paraphrases, and quotes relevant evidence from the text to support claim Incorporates a variety of evidence from multiple types of sources		Paraphrases and quotes relevant evidence from the text to support claim Incorporates evidence from more than one type of source		Summarizes relevant evidence from the text Incorporates evidence from one type of source		Restates relevant evidence from the text Incorporates little evidence from one type of source
Organization and Structure			Develops strong introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion that strengthens position Orders ideas logically using transitional phrases to clarify the reasoning of the argument		Develops introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion Orders ideas using transitional phrases to allow the reader to follow the argument		Groups ideas through a basic five- paragraph structure Conclusion simply restates the position		Demonstrates little evidence of five-paragraph structure and illogical organization Conclusion confuses the position
Tone and Audience			Consistently maintains an objective tone and formal voice Uses appropriate language and tone in a style that engages the audience		Maintains an objective tone and formal voice Uses language appropriate to audience and purpose		Uses language and tone generally appropriate to the audience and purpose with minor lapses		Uses basic language and uneven tone with some improper usage of words and phrases
Conten Knowled	-		Exhibits thorough and accurate understanding of content Consistently uses academic vocabulary and domain-specific language When appropriate, acknowledges author's bias or point of view		Exhibits accurate understanding of content Uses academic vocabulary and domain-specific language		Exhibits basic understanding of the content Uses academic vocabulary and domain-specific language with minor errors		Exhibits an incomplete understanding of the content Rarely uses academic vocabulary or domain-specific language

* A marking of **"No Evidence"** refers to students who were absent or who have not exhibited any evidence of these skills.