**Argumentative Writing**

Current Oregon State Standard: HS.12 Construct and defend a written historical argument using relevant primary and secondary sources as evidence.

New Oregon State Standard: HS.72 – Construct arguments using precise claims, integrating and evaluating information provided by multiple sources, diverse media, and formats, while acknowledging counterclaims and evidentiary strengths and weaknesses.

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| Points | Descriptor |
| 0-1 | The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below. |
| 2 | The response indicates some understanding of the demands of the question.  The response lacks clarity and coherence.  Response is poorly organized, or organization is only partially successful. Where there is a recognizable structure there is minimal focus on the task.  There is limited analysis, but the response is primarily narrative/descriptive in nature, rather than analytical.  Response may consist mostly of generalizations and poorly substantiated assertions.  Reference is made to evidence from sources, but there is no analysis of that evidence. |
| 3 | The demands of the question are understood and addressed. Answers are generally well structured and organized, although there may be some repetition or lack of clarity in places.  The response moves beyond description to include some analysis or critical commentary, but this is either not sustained or lacking in development and clarity.  Evidence from a range of sources is used to support the argument. Most of the main points are substantiated.  Arguments are mainly clear and coherent. There is some awareness and evaluation of different perspectives.  The response argues to a reasoned conclusion. |
| 4­ | Responses are clearly focused, showing a high degree of awareness of the demands and implications of the question. Answers are well structured, balanced and effectively organized.  The response contains well-developed critical analysis that is focused clearly on the stated question. Evidence from a range of sources is used effectively to support the argument.  Arguments are clear and coherent. There is evaluation of different perspectives, and this evaluation is integrated effectively into the answer.  The answer contains well-developed critical analysis. All, or nearly all, of the main points are substantiated, and the response argues to a reasoned conclusion that is consistent with the evidence and arguments provided. |