

**Primary Standard LAFS.7.RI.3.8:** Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.

**Related Standard LAFS.7.SL.1.3:** Delineate a speaker’s argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of reasoning and the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.

**Related Standard LAFS.7.RI.1.1:** Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

**Cognitive Complexity:** Level 3: Strategic Thinking & Complex Reasoning

**Assessment Limits:** Items should not ask the student to simply identify the argument or claims in the text. Items may ask the student to trace the argument or specific claims in a section of the text or throughout the whole text. Items may focus on evaluating how effective, persuasive, or biased an argument or claim is. Items may focus on evaluating how relevant, sufficient, or accurate the evidence is, or how credible the sources are, for an argument or claim. Items should not focus on irrelevant or inappropriate evidence.

<b>4</b>	<p>After reading two opposing arguments, the student will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assess</b> which argument is more effective based on the persuasiveness, soundness of reasoning, relevancy and sufficiency of the evidence, and credibility of sources.</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<p>The student will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evaluate</b> the effectiveness of an argument or specific claims.</li> <li>• <b>Evaluate</b> the persuasiveness of an argument or specific claims.</li> <li>• <b>Evaluate</b> the degree of bias in an argument or specific claims.</li> <li>• <b>Evaluate</b> the credibility of the sources used to support an argument or specific claims.</li> <li>• <b>Assess</b> whether the reasoning to support an argument or specific claims is sound.</li> <li>• <b>Assess</b> whether the evidence to support an argument or specific claims is relevant.</li> <li>• <b>Assess</b> whether the evidence is sufficient to support an argument or specific claims.</li> <li>• <b>Cite</b> several pieces of textual evidence to support inferences drawn from the text.</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<p>The student will <b>understand</b> the following academic vocabulary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>bias</i> (one-sided approach to an issue that lacks respectful regard of opposing views)</li> <li>• <i>reasoning</i> (the use of facts, evidence, and logic to arrive at a conclusion)</li> <li>• <i>sound reasoning</i> (supported, accurate, and appropriate conclusions)</li> <li>• <i>relevant evidence</i> (evidence that has a definite relationship to the claim)</li> <li>• <i>sufficient evidence</i> (a necessary amount of evidence to support something without leaving holes)</li> <li>• <i>credible source</i> (a source that readers can trust; can vary depending on the subject)</li> <li>• <i>trace/delineate</i> (to outline the parts)</li> </ul> <p>The student will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Trace</b> the argument in a text.</li> <li>• <b>Trace</b> the specific claims in a text.</li> <li>• <b>Identify</b> bias in an argument or specific claims.</li> <li>• <b>Describe</b> how the sources relate to the subject of the argument or type of evidence.</li> <li>• <b>Describe</b> how the author uses reasoning to support the claim or argument in a text.</li> <li>• <b>Describe</b> how the author uses evidence to support the claim or argument in a text.</li> <li>• <b>Cite</b> textual evidence to support inferences drawn from the text.</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<p>The student will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Identify</b> the argument in a text.</li> <li>• <b>Identify</b> the specific claims in a text.</li> <li>• <b>Distinguish</b> fact from opinion.</li> <li>• <b>Identify</b> the sources of evidence an author uses in an argument.</li> <li>• <b>Identify</b> the author’s reasoning in a text.</li> <li>• <b>Identify</b> the evidence an author uses in an argument.</li> </ul>