



2011 FCAT WRITING

GRADE 8
EXPOSITORY PROMPT
ANCHOR SET



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Introduction

Student papers are scored following administration of the FCAT Writing assessment each year. Prior to each scoring session, members of the Writing Rangefinder Committee (comprised of Florida educators) read student responses and select papers to represent the range of quality allowed within the established criteria for each score point on the rubric. These papers are used to train the readers for the holistic scoring of the FCAT Writing responses. Each anchor set (scoring guide) includes a student response and an annotation to explain why it was assigned a particular score. This provides the basis for developing a common understanding of the scoring criteria. A skilled scoring director and scoring supervisors are responsible for training, assisting, and monitoring readers throughout the training and holistic scoring process. All scoring is monitored by Florida Department of Education staff.

It should be noted that the nature of holistic scoring addresses the writing elements of focus, organization, support, and conventions as an interrelated body of evidence. These elements are not scored separately or analytically. More information about the holistic scoring method and links to the FCAT Writing rubrics are available at <http://fcap.fldoe.org/rubrcpag.asp>.

Structure of Anchor Sets

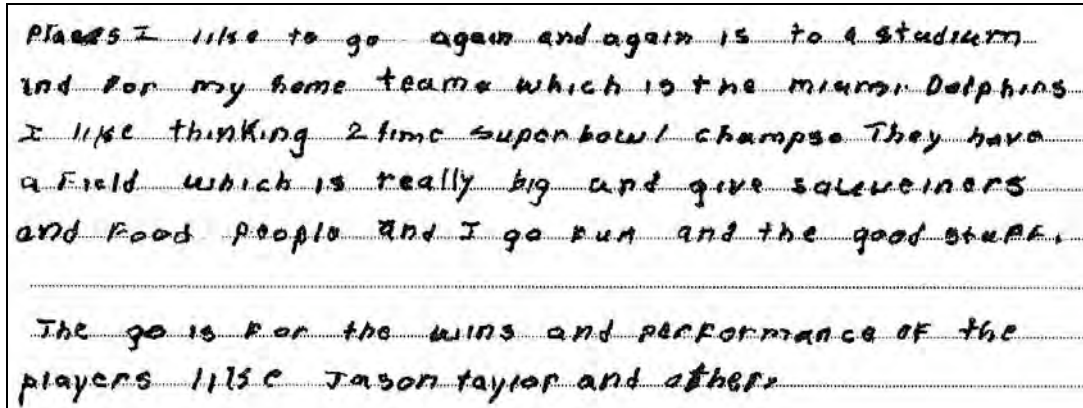
The released 2011 FCAT Writing Anchor Sets for Grades 4, 8, and 10 contain examples of responses used as training materials for the 2011 writing assessment. Personal information has been removed or fictionalized to protect the identity of the writer. For spring 2011, only one type of prompt per grade was administered for FCAT Writing; thus, for each tested grade, one Anchor Set was used.

Description of Prompt for Grade 8: Writing to Explain (Expository)

The Grade 8 expository prompt directed the student to think about a place he or she likes to go again and again and explain why he or she likes to go to this place.

Anchor Paper 1 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 1



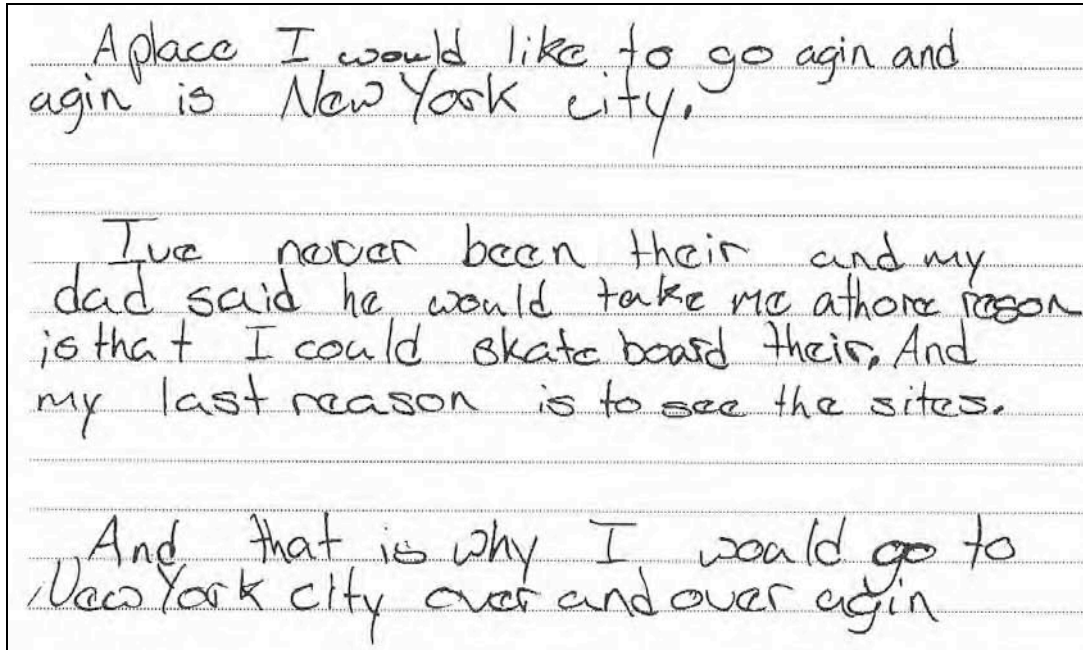
Places I like to go again and again is to a stadium
and for my home team which is the miami Dolphins
I like thinking 2 time superbowl champs They have
a Field which is really big and give sauveiners
and food people and I go fun and the good stuff.

The go is for the wins and performance of the
players like Jason taylor and other.

The writing minimally addresses the topic with a fragmentary list of related ideas about a place the writer wants to go again and again (*to a stadium and for my home team, which is the miami Dolphins*). Support is limited (*They have a Field which is really big and give sauveiners and food*) and vague (*I like thinking 2 time superbowl champs. . . people and I go fun and the good stuff, The go is for the wins and performance of the players like Jason taylor and other*). Little evidence of an organizational pattern is apparent. Word choice is limited and occasionally inappropriate, obscuring meaning. Gross errors in sentence structure impede communication, and errors in the basic conventions of mechanics and usage occur frequently.

Anchor Paper 2 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 1



A place I would like to go agin and agin is New York city.

I've never been their and my dad said he would take me a home reason is that I could skate board their. And my last reason is to see the sites.

And that is why I would go to New York city over and over agin

The writing minimally addresses the topic (*A place I would like to go agin and agin is New York city*). Development of support consists of a brief listing of related ideas (*I've never been their . . . I could skate board their. And my last reason is to see the sites*). An attempt at an organizational pattern is apparent in the brief beginning, body, and repetitive conclusion. Word choice is very limited and repetitive. Errors occur in sentence structure and in the basic conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling, but they do not impede communication.

Anchor Paper 3 (page 1 of 1)

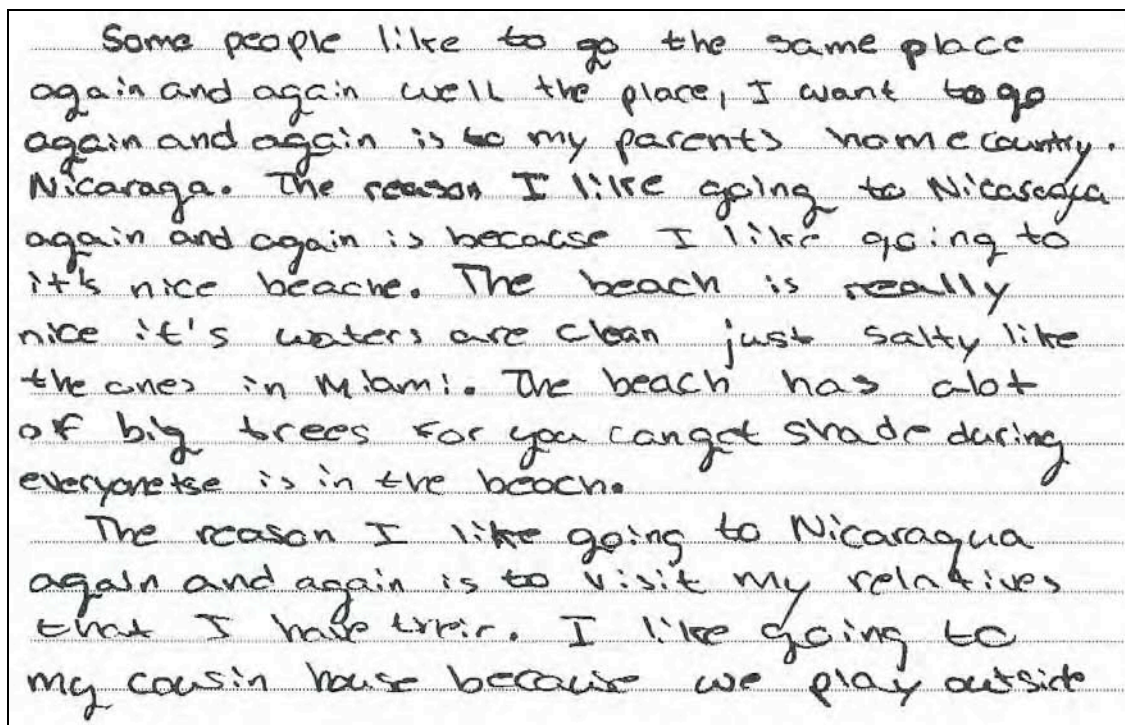
Score Point 1

Mission House
 Because it got A lot of New Things
 It got more Bed's Bath Room
 It got More Room to put All Your Stuff
 Down. We got Toy's for the kids to Play With It
 We got A Big Pool in our Back Yard Basket Ball
 Court, goal, Ball to Play Basketball With us Friend's
 We Are going to Have A Cook out Bring our
 Friend's Have A Big Party. We got A kitchen Then We
 got A liver Room to Seat Down to Watch T.V.
 Flowers in our Yard.
 Christmas Day
 Santa Cluss Bring us ~~seats~~, Toy's, Jewels nice Stuff
 Santa is the Nice guy on Earth.

The writing minimally addresses the topic with a fragmentary list of ideas about a place the writer wants to go to again and again (*Mission House*), but the response also includes some loosely related ideas about Christmas. Little development of support or an organizational pattern is evident (*it got A Lot of New Things It got More Bed's Bath Room It got More Room to Put All Your Stuff Down. We got Toy's for the Kids to Play With It We got A Big Pool in our Back Yard Basket Ball Court, goal, Ball to Play Basketball*). Frequent errors in sentence structure, mechanics, and usage sometimes impede communication.

Anchor Paper 4 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 2



Some people like to go the same place again and again well the place, I want to go again and again is to my parents home country. Nicaragua. The reason I like going to Nicaragua again and again is because I like going to it's nice beache. The beach is really nice it's waters are clean just salty like the ones in Miami. The beach has alot of big trees for you can get shade during everywhere is in the beache.

The reason I like going to Nicaragua again and again is to visit my relatives that I have there. I like going to my cousin house because we play outside

The writing is focused on Nicaragua as the place the writer wants to go to again and again. An attempt at organization is demonstrated as information is centered around two reasons (*I like going to it's nice beache [and] to visit my relatives*). Support for each idea is inadequate (*it's waters are clean just salty like the ones in Miami. The beach has alot of big trees for you can get shade. . . ., I like going to my cousin house because we play outside*). The response lacks a sense of completeness because of the minimal development. Word choice is limited and repetitive (*Some people like to go to the same place again and again well the place, I want to go again and again is to my parents home country. Nicaragua. The reason I like going to Nicaragua again and again is because I like going to it's nice beache*). Although some errors occur in basic conventions, they do not impede communication.

Anchor Paper 5 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 2

The place I would like to go again and again is to my home town Indian Town. To begin with because I love it so much and my family is down there. My friends as well and I want to go back to see what's new what I missed out on. I would like to go there also because it feels like home there. It is also easy to make friends. The food is so great and tasty too! In addition to that the products are tempting to buy. It also is like a free place just to hang out or something besides that I'm happy there and spending time there is not a waste to me. To me its fun there you meet new people see new things even catch a hold of the language Spanish.

So in conclusion, Indian Town is the place I would like to go over and over again to.

The writing in this response is related to the topic (*The place I would like to go again and again is to my home town Indian Town*). A simple organizational pattern is demonstrated, with brief beginning and nearly identical ending statements, along with the use of simple transitions (*To begin with, also*). Support consists of a list of loosely connected vague ideas, and word choice is limited (*my family is down there. My friends as well and i want to go back to see what's new. . . . It is also easy to make friends. The food is so great and tasty too! in addition to that the products are tempting to buy!!*). Errors occur in sentence structure (*To begin with because I love it so much and my family is down there. My friends as well and i want to go back. . . . To me its fun there you meet new people see new things. . . .*) and in basic writing conventions.

Anchor Paper 6 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 2

A place that I would like to go to again and again would be Busch Gardens. The ~~place~~ has great rides, the food they sell there taste pretty good and other great things.

One of the reasons why I would go to Busch Gardens is the rides. This ~~place~~ gets a great variety of rides. Most of these rides are super huge.

Another reason is the great food. The food they sell there is very good. This place also has a great variety of food. Busch Gardens has got just about any type of food even though the price is kind of high.

The last reason is that the Busch Gardens ~~are~~ still has more to give. The place has stores. The Busch Gardens in New Jersey even has a McDonalds. Busch Gardens is also connected to Adventure Island so there is to parks there.

Theses are the reasons why I would love to go to ~~Busch Gardens~~ ~~go~~ to this place over and over.

This writing is related to the topic of going to Busch Gardens but includes some loosely related material in the third body paragraph (*The Busch Gardens in New Jersey even has a McDonalds. Busch Gardens is also connected to Adventure Island*). An organizational plan is demonstrated in the brief introduction and conclusion and in the use of simple, repetitive transitions between paragraphs (*One of the reasons, Another reason, The last reason, Theses are the reasons*). However, the development of support within each paragraph lacks detail. (*This place gets a great variety of rides. Most of these rides are super huge. Another reason is the great food. The food they sell there is very good. This place also has a great variety of food. Busch Gardens has got just about any type of food*). Word choice is vague and repetitive, and sentences show little variation. A few errors in mechanics and usage do not impede communication, and spelling is generally correct.

Anchor Paper 7 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 3

I like to go to the beach. Daytona beach to be exact. I like to go there because I love water and watersports. When I go to the beach I go surfing, I make sand castles and I skim board. I love going to the beach because along with playing I get time to spend with my family. When I go to the beach I really enjoy myself and I have a good time. After we are done playing in the water we go up and look at the surf shops and we play on the pier. I always want to ride the rides on the pier but my parents say no. The days I spend at the beach are so fun I don't want them to end but they do and it's a long drive home but I'm never really sad because I know I can go back another day and play at the beach again. And that's my favorite part about the beach you can always go back!

The writing is generally focused on the beach. An organizational pattern is evident in the brief introduction (*I like to go to the beach. Daytona beach to be exact*), body, and brief ending (*And that's my favorite part about the beach you can always go back!*). This response is more than a list of loosely related ideas. Some support is included for each idea, which explains why Daytona Beach is the place to go again and again (*I like to go there because I love water and watersports. When I go to the beach I go surfing. I make sand castles and I skim board. . . . After we are done playing in the water we go up and look at the surf shops and we play on the pier. I always want to ride the rides on the pier but my parents say no*). Word choice is adequate but limited. Sentences show little variation in structure, and some are run-ons. Some errors in basic conventions occur, but they do not impede communication.

Anchor Paper 8 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 3

I know a place where I would love to go back again, and again. That place would be Washington D.C.. I would want to go back because First and foremost Washington absolutely has the most beautiful scenery that I have ever saw. Secondly there are these humungous building that surround me. Last but not least I would want to go back to D.C. Because I would want to eat at one of Washington's luxurios restaurants. That's not all folks. stay tuned and finish reading about why I want to go back to Washington again.

First Washington has the most beautiful scenery that I have ever saw. The capital has very nice statues. Washington has very nice gardens. The capital knows how to treat tourists. I really love Washington sites.

Secondly there are these humungous building that surround me. The White house is very big. This is also another reason why I would want to go back. If you stand by one of the buildings, you would be so tiny. There is over 100 buildings in Washington.

Last but not least I would definitely want to go back to visit the luxurios restaurants. They might cost a arm and a leg but there food is great. The restaurants know how to treat a guest. Some restarunts are so luxurios, that they have a waterfal right next to your dinner table. That is my last reason why I want to visit Washington D.C.

To conclude I would want to visit Washington D.C. because first Washington has very, very beautiful scenery. Next there are big buildings surrounding me. Last I love to chow in a nice restaurant. Where do you want to visit again?

The writing is focused on the topic of going back to Washington, D.C. The organizational pattern is apparent and is aided by the use of simple transitions (*First, Secondly, Last but not least, To conclude*). The body paragraphs provide development of each supporting idea, but the development is erratic, combining support that is quite general (*Washington absolutely has the most beautiful scenery that I have ever saw, The capital has very nice statues, Washington has very nice gardens*) with support that is more detailed (*Some restarunts are so luxurios, that they have a waterfal right next to your dinner table*). Word choice is adequate, though sometimes limited and vague (*very nice statues, very nice gardens, very big*). Sentence structures show little variation, but the writing generally demonstrates knowledge of writing conventions.

Anchor Paper 9 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 3

Bang bang bang! That's the sound of my surfboard hitting the water as I ride one of my best waves ever. The beach is my favorite place to visit over and over. Because I love to surf also so I can learn new tricks. Plus, so I can meet new friends.

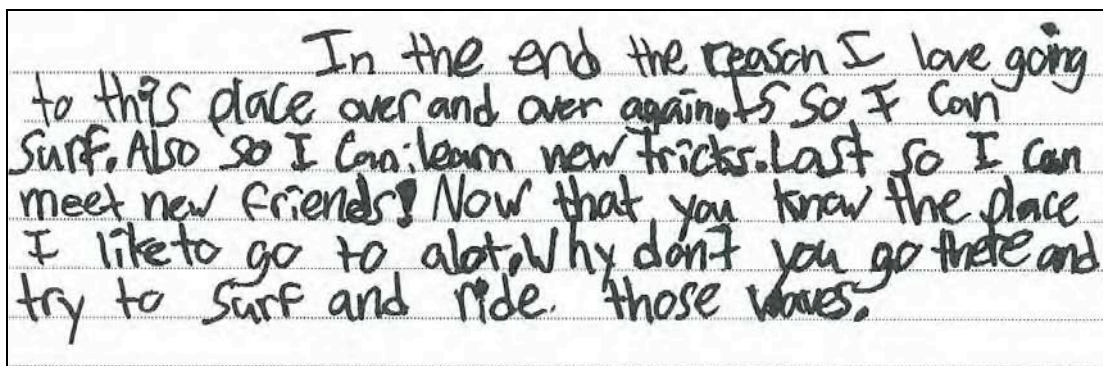
One of the reasons I love going to there over and over again is because I like to surf. If you tried surfing you would probably go over and over again to. It's like once you start surfing you get addicted to it. Most of people's favorite part of surfing is riding the wave as fast as they can.

Second but not least I love going to the beach over and over again is so I can learn new tricks. Such as a floater which is basically when you stall on top of the wave. The reason why I like to learn new tricks is so some day I could maybe enter a competition. So I can get some money, if I get 1-10th place.

Last so I can meet some new friends. Such as my friend Cody I met last week from going to the beach. I basically know everybody now because I go there a lot. So get up and go to the beach you never know who you will meet.

Anchor Paper 9 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 3



In the end the reason I love going to this place over and over again is so I can surf. Also so I can learn new tricks. Last so I can meet new friends! Now that you know the place I like to go to alot, Why don't you go there and try to surf and ride those waves.

The writing is generally focused on going to the beach. An organizational pattern is evident and includes the use of simple transitions (*One of the reasons, Second but not least, Last, In the end*). Each paragraph is developed with some details, although the development of support varies from a series of general statements (*I like to surf. If you tried surfing you would probably go over and over again to. It's like once you start surfing you get addicted to it. Most of peoples favorit part of surfing is riding the wave as fast as they can*) to more detailed ideas that explain why the writer likes to go to the beach again and again (*so I can learn new tricks. Such as a floater wich is basically when you stall on top of the wave. The reason why I like to learn new tricks is so some day I could maybe enter a competition. So I can get, some money*). Word choice is adequate, and sentences show some variation in structure. A few errors in usage and mechanics are present, but the writing generally demonstrates knowledge of writing conventions.

Anchor Paper 10 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 4

I don't know about you but my place I like to go to again and again is Orlando. I mean come on, there's tons things that attract people to Orlando. For an example, there's baseball tournaments, nice hotels, and my favorite Amusement parks.

My first reason why I like to go to Orlando is because they hold great baseball tournaments. The tournaments are held at the Disney's Wild World of Sports, and yes that is where the Buccaneers training camp is held. But anyways the tournaments are at the Wild World of Sports and man they are nice fields. I've been to two tournaments there and we've played the best team in the nation, and we also played Puerto Rico. It was a pretty cool experience.

My second reason why I like to go to Orlando is because of their hotels. They have the nicest hotels I've ever been to. My favorite one is Ren Jons surf hotel. It has nice rooms, but that's not why I like it. I like it because of the pool area. It has a enormous pool and it has a big volcano in the middle. It also has volleyball net, basketball, and did I say slides that go into the pool.

My last reason why I like to go to Orlando is because of their Amusement parks. It has Islands of Adventure and Universal Studios. At Islands of Adventure there's new cool rides. My favorite ride is the Hulk and Spider-Man. Even though I know what's going to happen I still like it. Universal Studios has all the classic rides. My favorite there is back to the future. It's virtual.

Yeah that's my favorite place to go to again and again. Oh yeah another reason I like to go there is because I don't have to write essays for school there.

Anchor Paper 10 (page 2 of 2)**Score Point 4**

The writing is generally focused and is organized around three reasons why Orlando is the place to go again and again. Support is adequate but somewhat uneven. Some ideas are given more development with specific details (*they hold great baseball tournaments. The tournaments are held at the disneys wild world of sports. . . . I've been to two tournaments there and we've played the best team in the nation, and we also played pueto rico. [and] They have the nicest hotels I've ever been to. My favorite one is ron Jons surf hotel. . . . It has a enourmous pool and it has a big volcano in the middle it also has volleyball net, basketball, and did I say slides that go into the pool*), while the development of other ideas remains general (*My favorite ride is the hulk and spder man. Even though I know whats going to happend I still like it, universal studios has all the classic rides*). The overall development of support in this response contributes to a sense of completeness. Word choice is adequate, and an attempt to vary sentence structures is evident. Although errors occur in mechanics, usage, and spelling, the response generally demonstrates knowledge of writing conventions.

Anchor Paper 11 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 4

The rides, the excitement, the fascination!
That's right I'm going to Epcot again,
Around the world, rides, and the beautiful
scenery, that is what Epcot is there for!!
I've only went once, at least I get to go
again. I had so much enjoyment there,
Epcot is a fun and educational way to enjoy
yourself.

Beginning with, around the world. They
had made Epcot look as if they're are
actually going around the world. Place to
place, country to country, it was a fun
thing to-do. Countries such as England,
Norway, Germany, the United States, Morocco,
Japan, Mexico, and many, many more. Mexico
was my absolute favorite because they had
a boat ride there. Around the world was
breath taking because of foods, music, and
the general idea of how that certain country
would look like.

To clarify, rides are also a real good
time, I had went on a ride called Mission
Space. It had made you feel as if you
are an actual astronaut. Be sure when you
go on that ride that you don't make any
sudden movements, Or else you will get
nausea. In this ride you are the astronaut.
Another good ride was a ride that you test

Anchor Paper 11 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 4

your nerves and the car. You never get hurt though.

To continue, they have such breath-taking scenery. They have beautiful hedges cut out to look like Disney characters. Flowers in and on the lake. Talk about breath-taking. Around the world, and rides. The scenery was probably the most luscious thing there. Bridges, flowers, lakes, what more could you ask for?

To end with, Epcot is a beautiful place/ great rides/ great authentic countries. That is what Epcot is all about. Now you heard my point of view of Epcot, what's yours?

The response is generally focused on why Epcot is the place to go again and again. An organizational pattern is apparent and includes the use of transitional phrases (*That's right, Beginning with, To clarify, To continue*). Development of support within each paragraph is adequate, with each reason supported by some specific details (*Mexico was my absolute favorite because they had a boat ride there. Around the world was breath taking because of foods, music, and the general idea of how that certain country would look like. [and] . . . they have such breath-taking scenery. They have beautiful hedges cut out to look like Disney characters. Flowers in and on the lake*). In the second body paragraph, ideas show some elaboration (*I had went on a ride called Mission Space. It had made you feel as if you are an actual astronaut. Be sure when you go on that ride that you don't make any sudden movements. Or else you will get nausea. In this ride you are the astronaut*). Word choice is adequate throughout the paper, and sentences show some variety in structure. While the writing contains some errors in usage and mechanics, writing conventions are generally followed.

Anchor Paper 12 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 4

"Hi! And welcome to Chile's!" I can never get enough of that. I love going to Chile's because it my favorite restaurant. I could go there every day if I could! First because of the great food. Second, the party atmosphere. Last, the quick service.

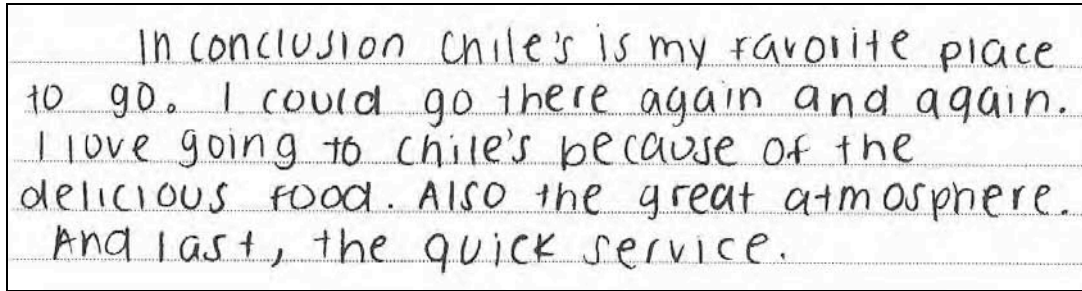
The first reason why I like to go to Chile's is because of the delicious food. Chile's food is always fresh off the grill. They have the best taste and seasonings, I don't know what they put. One time my mom ordered the sizzling steak and chicken fajitas but we didn't think it would actually come sizzling! It was still smoking hot and on the pan, it was yummy!

The second reason why I like Chile's so much is the atmosphere. You walk into two double doors with a Chile pepper door handle. Automatically you have the aroma of juicy steak melting in your mouth. You feel like you're at a party. Everyone is smiling and looking like they're having a great time.

Last reason why I love going to Chile's is the service. I mostly go to Chile's on a Friday, which is one of the busiest nights. We take our family of five and we are seated no longer than twenty minutes. The waiters are always friendly. Ten minutes from ordering and your food is served!

Anchor Paper 12 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 4



In conclusion Chile's is my favorite place to go. I could go there again and again. I love going to Chile's because of the delicious food. Also the great atmosphere. And last, the quick service.

The response focuses on eating at Chili's restaurant and contains no extraneous material (*I love going to Chiles, because it my favorite restaurant*). The organizational pattern includes a somewhat developed, if repetitive, beginning and ending and uses basic but effective transitions (*The first reason, The second reason, Last reason, Also, And last*). Support for the reasons given for going to Chili's is adequate. In the first body paragraph, ideas are supported with some anecdotal detail (*One time my mom ordered the sizzling steak and chicken fajitas but we didn't think it would actually come sizzling! It was still smoking hot and on the pan, it was yummy!*). Additional support consists of a series of descriptive statements (*The second reason why I like Chiles so much is the atmosphere. You walk into two double doors with a Chile pepper door handle. Automatically you have the aroma of juicy steak melting in your mouth. You feel like your at a party*). Word choice is adequate and occasionally precise (*party atmosphere, actually come sizzling, still smoking hot and on the pan, juicy steak melting in your mouth*) and contributes to a sense of completeness. The writing generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 13 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 5

If I were to go to a place over and over again, it would be the Canyons of Utah. This would be a wonderful place to keep going to because it's fun, it creates good family time, and it is beautiful. All of these reasons make it a great place to go during the winter.

For one reason, I would go to Utah because it is great fun in the winter. Snowboarding down the slopes at top speed and crashing into a big clump of soft, fluffy snow makes you feel alive. It is also fun throwing snowballs at skiers and other snowboarders. Sometimes when you are going down the slopes you see a snowball fight being played on the side of the slope in the trees. Joining these are great fun. Utah is definitely a fun place to go.

A second reason why I would like to keep going back to Utah is that it creates lots of family time. Sitting in the room at our fancy hotel, waiting to get on the slopes, urges you to start talking about yourself to your family. While eating in the restaurants on the snow runs, you tell your family what you did the first half of the day on the slopes. Once you get back to the hotel you're tired and ready to have a great game of rummikub! Utah creates lots of family time.

The last reason I would want to keep going to Utah is that it is extraordinarily beautiful. Waking up in the morning and looking out the window and seeing a great world covered in snow and white, is just beautiful. On the slopes you may see a deer or moose hiding behind a tree or far away. It amazes me that it isn't one of the seven great wonders of the world.

I would go to Utah over and over again because it is fun, it creates family time, and it is beautiful. It is definitely a place that I love.

Anchor Paper 13 (page 2 of 2)**Score Point 5**

The writing is focused on why the student would like to return to Utah. The organizational pattern includes a clear beginning, middle, and ending. Progression of ideas is further strengthened by the use of transitions within and across paragraphs (*It is also fun, While eating in the restaurants, Once you get back to the hotel, Waking up in the morning*). Amply developed and specific supporting details contribute to the sense of completeness. The writing demonstrates a mature command of language through the varied sentence constructions and precise word choice (*Waking up in the morning and looking out the window and seeing a great wood, covered in snow and white, is just beautiful. On the slopes you may see a deer or moose hiding behind a tree or far away. It amazes me that it isn't one of the seven great wonders of the world*). The response demonstrates few errors in the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 14 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 5

I love to visit Portland Oregon! I visit Portland very frequently because most of my family lives there and there are many outdoor activities and beautiful landmarks to look at.

One reason why I love to visit Portland, Oregon over and over again is because most of my family lives there. My grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and even my great grandmother lives in Portland. When I visit Portland, I usually stay at my grandparents' house. We always bake cookies and make homemade biscuits. One time, I stayed there for Christmas, and we stayed up all night long watching movies and playing cards. While in Portland, I stop by my Aunt's house and spend the weekend with her. We always rent a lot of movies and stay up all night eating snacks. After that, my Aunt and I usually visit the park up the street. We play softball, volleyball, and basketball. Playing sports all day can get very exhausting, so we go to my favorite restaurant and get a bite to eat. Visiting Portland Oregon over and over again is fun because I have a lot of family to spend time with.

Anchor Paper 14 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 5

Another reason why visiting Portland, Oregon is so much fun is because there are many outdoor activities to do and beautiful landmarks to look at. One beautiful landmark I visit frequently is Multnomah Falls. It is a very large waterfall that you can climb up to the top of. This activity can last up to three hours because of all of the walking and hiking! During the winter season, Mt. Hood has a tremendous amount of snow on it. I drag my sled all the way up to the top of a hill and slide down. After a while, it gets quite cold outside and we have to take a break and buy some lunch at the lodge. They have very tasty food and hot chocolate. I also love to go camping by Cannon Beach. We spend two to three nights camping and each day we run up to the beach and eat lunch and spend the whole day relaxing by the ocean. Portland, Oregon is my favorite place to visit over and over again for two reasons: I have wonderful family to visit with and there are many outdoor activities and beautiful landmarks to look at.

The response is focused on the reasons (family and outdoor activities) for visiting Portland, Oregon, again and again. Clear transitions contribute to the progression of ideas (*One reason, When I visit, One time, so we go, During the winter season, After a while, I also love*). Ample development and specific supporting details contribute to the sense of completeness (*I stop by my Aunt's house and spend the weekend with her. We always rent a lot of movies and stay up all night eating snacks. After that, my Aunt and I usually visit the park up the street. We play softball, volleyball, and basketball. Playing sports all day can get very exhausting, so we go to my favorite restaurant and get a bite to eat*). The writing demonstrates a mature command of language with mostly precise word choice. Sentence structure is varied, and conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling are generally followed.

Anchor Paper 15 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 5

Have you ever visited a place more than once? I have been to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee more times than I can count. My family and I love going to Pigeon Forge because it snows in the wintertime, it has tons of things to do, and we have a house in [Balsam], Tennessee which is near Pigeon Forge. Pigeon Forge is a great place to spend time with your family and friends.

To begin with, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee snows in the wintertime. It's the only chance we get to see snow because down here in Florida it never snows, it's too hot to snow! Plus, Pigeon Forge is in the middle of the Smoky Mountains, a part of the Appalachian Mountains, and when it snows the mountains are so beautiful. It really is a sight to see, you need to put it on your list of things to do before you die. There's this area around Pigeon Forge called Cades Cove that has the best views of snow on the mountains. It's like a winter wonderland.

For instance, if you're an active person, then Pigeon Forge is the perfect place to go. Pigeon Forge has varieties of things to do like shopping, hiking, helicopter rides, sky diving, and tons of places to eat and play putt-putt or ride go-carts. I love to shop so that's normally what I do when I go there.

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Score Point 5

Pigeon Forge has tons of shopping malls and outlet centers or stores. They have stores from Beall's Outlet to Coach, which is really expensive. Also, if you love watching Broadway shows or musical shows, then Pigeon Forge welcomes you to come and watch a show. They have shows like Black Bear Jamboree, Country Tonight, and Dixie Stampede. Dolly Parton's Dollywood is an amusement park. It is so fun there too! Pigeon Forge has so many things to do!

We also have a house up there. Our house is in [Balsam], TN, which is 15 minutes away from Pigeon Forge. Everytime we visit there, we always go to Pigeon Forge. [Balsam], TN is more of the quiet side of the Smokies. So we relax on the last day at the house in [Balsam].

In conclusion, Pigeon Forge, TN is a place you'll want to go to more than once. You'll be going up north so many times, you'll have to get a house. It snows, has a lot of things to do, and we have a house up there. What city am I talking about? You guessed it, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

The writing is focused on the topic (*Pigeon Forge, TN is a place you'll want to go to more than once*). The response begins with a rhetorical question that introduces the main idea and follows with a discussion of supporting reasons, closing the paper with a final rhetorical question and answer. This organizational pattern provides for a progression of ideas and a sense of completeness. Support is ample, with the first two reasons to visit Pigeon Forge developed with many specific and concrete details (*Also, if you love watching Broadway shows or musical shows, then Pigeon Forge welcomes you to come and watch a show. They have shows like Black Bear Jamboree, Country Tonight, and Dixie Stampede. Dolly Parton's Dollywood is an amusement park. It is so fun there too!*). A mature command of language is evident in some precise word choice and the varied sentence structure (*Plus, Pigeon Forge is in the middle of the Smoky Mountains, a part of the Appalachian Mountains, and when it snows the mountains are so beautiful. It really is a sight to see. . .*). Knowledge of the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling is demonstrated.

Anchor Paper 16 (page 1 of 2)

Score Point 6

It is a beautiful Sunday morning and the fans are filling in. Down on the field the teams are prepped and ready to rumble. I take my seat in one of the thousands that surround the field. The stadium rocks from the cheering and the home team kicks the ball. All this keeps me coming back to the stadium again and again.

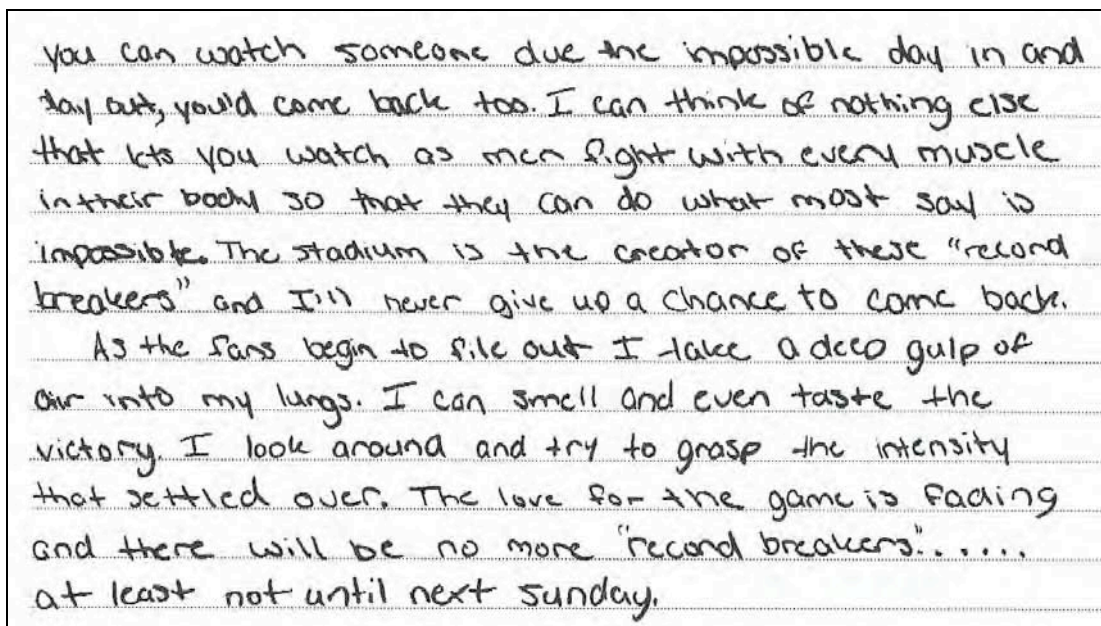
The first thing I always adore about the football stadium is the intense atmosphere. All around I hear the cheering of the fans as their voice erupts from their mouths like a volcano spewing lava. Any time you walk into a stadium you can feel the atmosphere change instantly. The collisions and then the applaud also tend to spice it up a bit.

As I watch the game unfold I kindly glance around. All around I see fans wearing outfits to represent their team. Nothing brings me back to the field more than everyone's love for the game. Each person is unique and football stadiums provide the perfect environment for people to see the real you. Valentines day has nothing on the fans love for football. I'm not sure anything does. In an atmosphere like this, surely you'd want to come back again and again.

On the field I watch as the star running back breaks free for a magnificent run that broke the record. Everyone jumps onto their feet and immediately scream and cheer on the star when

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Score Point 6



you can watch someone due the impossible day in and day out, you'd come back too. I can think of nothing else that lets you watch as men fight with every muscle in their body so that they can do what most say is impossible. The stadium is the creator of these "record breakers" and I'll never give up a chance to come back.

As the fans begin to file out I take a deep gulp of air into my lungs. I can smell and even taste the victory. I look around and try to grasp the intensity that settled over. The love for the game is fading and there will be no more "record breakers"..... at least not until next Sunday.

The writing is focused on reasons for visiting the football stadium again and again and reflects insight into the writing situation (*Nothing brings me back to the field more than everyone's love for the game. Each person is unique and football stadiums provide the perfect environment for people to see the real you*). A logical progression of ideas within each paragraph and across the writing as a whole contributes to a sense of completeness, as does the purposeful use of transitions (*As I watch the game unfold, On the field I watch, As the fans begin to file out*). Support for each paragraph is specific and illustrative (*On the field I watch as the star running back breaks free for a magnificent run that broke the record. Everyone jumps onto their feet and immediately scream and cheer on the star. When you can watch someone due the impossible day in and day out, you'd come back too*). The writing demonstrates an involvement with the subject, and a mature command of language and precise word choice convey the excitement of the football stadium (*It is a beautiful Sunday morning and the fans are filing in. Down on the field the teams are prepped and ready to rumble. I take my seat in one of the thousands that surround the field. The stadium rocks from the cheering and the home team kicks the ball*). Sentence structure is varied, and few convention errors are present.

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Score Point 6

I love all-american food, such as hamburgers, french fries, milkshakes, and molts. It just so happens that there is an awesome, seventies-retro cafe just by my house. It is called ["Molly's Malts."] It has been in business for over thirty years. My family and I go there every Friday evening, we love going there because of the awesome food, and fond memories it brings us.

["Molly's Malts"] is famous for its "Super-Slamer Shake." It is none throughout town to be the best milkshake you will ever drink. It is a combination of vanilla, chocolate, and mint ice cream, topped with real cream and a cherry. My family is this drink's biggest fan, we got to ["Molly's"] every Friday night because we love the all-american food, as soon as we sit down in the squeaky, shiny red booths, the manager, [Brian] points to us, while whispering to a waiter, who brings up four "Super-Slamer Shakes", one for my mom, dad, sister, and I. Along with the milkshake he brings us our food, we do not have to even order! I am brought

["Molly's Specialty."] A thick, double-patty burger, juicy and seeping with [Molly's] "secret sauce." It has two red, ripe tomato slices slapped on the burger, crisp lettuce and cheese, all squeezed between two warm, sesame seed buns. My sister has ["Molly's Chicken"] brought to her, which has two juicy chicken tenders, atop a mountain of fries. My dad is given a basket of, ["Molly's Fish Sticks,."] which is similar to my sister's chicken, but fish, and finally, my mom is given her order of ["Molly's Club"], a club sandwich. The reason that

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Score Point 6

we love the Great food at ["Molly's"] is because it fills us up well, leaving us happy and in a good mood, and who does not like being happy?

My mom always has tears of happiness in her eyes as we leave ["Molly's."] I believe that we go there so often because my parents have such fond memories of ["Molly's"], as it was the place of their first date. ["Molly's"] has ten booths, each as shiny red as the others, however, the third one on the left has something more. An engraved heart is etched into the underside of this booth with both my parents initials being inside the heart, ["Molly's"] also was where my father "popped the question to my mom, and they became engaged. My dad is also smiling as we leave, ["Molly's"] was where he got his first-paying job. "I met the actual [Molly] I"he would tell me when I was a kid. "Beautiful, amazing, she loved people and to cook. She was the manager w my day." He would mutter. ["Molly's"] also has special meaning to me, it was there, on my eighth birthday, I had my party, but this was no party, it was a bash! We had an ice cream fight, started by the manager, my families friend, [Brian], but once that was over, my dad wheeled out a bike, a two-wheeler, as red as the booths.

As you can see, my parents and I love going to ["Molly's"] again and again, because it has great food and even better memories.

Anchor Paper 17 (page 3 of 3)**Score Point 6**

The response is focused on why the writer’s family keeps going back to “*Molly’s Malts*” and demonstrates purposefulness and insight into the writing situation. The organizational pattern includes an effective introduction and an effective, though brief, conclusion that contribute to a sense of completeness. Transitional devices, within and across paragraphs, provide for a logical progression of ideas and further strengthen the sense of completeness. Support for the café’s “*awesome food*” and the writer’s “*fond memories*” is substantial, specific, and illustrative (*It is a combination of vanilla, chocolate, and mint ice cream, topped with real cream and a cherry. My family is this drinks biggest fan, we got to “Molly’s” every Friday night because we love the all-american food, as soon as we sit down in the squeaky, shiny red booths, the manager, Brian, points to us, while whispering to a waiter, who brings up four “Super-Slammer Shakes”, one for my mom, dad, sister, and I*). A mature command of language and freshness of expression enhance the writer’s commitment to and involvement with the subject (“*Molly’s*” *has ten booths, each as shiny red as the others, however, the third one on the left has something more. An engraved heart is etched into the underside of this booth with both my parents initials being inside the heart. . .*). Sentences are varied throughout, and the few errors in conventions do not interfere with communication.

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Score Point 6

You hear the roar of screaming people as you step through the large gate. The lights are flashing and you can smell all the great food awaiting you. We walk to the ticket vender, and pay fourteen dollars for everyone to get in. Soon you have your green bracelets that say "free rides all night". You jump on the first ride that comes to a stop, it may not be your favorite ride, but you're just starting out. My favorite place that I love to go to again and again would have to be the Putnam County Fair. So many fun activities take place on those fair grounds. There are so many different games, food, animals, and even sweat. The initial reasons I go there are to be with friends, to eat those yummy mouth watering powder sugar topped funnel cakes, and of course the rides that pump adrenaline all through your body.

My friends and I have this ritual. You see one year I'll pay for everyone and the next year someone else pays for us all. Every year we all also have to ride the King of all rides first to start the night out right, the High Roller. That puts us all in a good mood and gets us ready for all the other rides. We all have a good time at the fair. Why do you think we go every year about the third week of March? When my friends and I get together you know we are all bound to have fun. We do so many crazy things just to get a laugh, and have a good time. I will never go to the fair without my friends.

You just got off your favorite ride, you look ahead while laughing with your friends and you see a food cart. The large red sign says funnel cakes. You try to stay distant but it doesn't work, and it seems like all those tasty morsels are calling out to you. "Eat me, Eat me". You rush over there, slam five dollars

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Score Point 6

down on the cart and say "One funnel cake please. With extra powder sugar." The vendor dashes a little more powdered sugar on the freshest funnel cake there. Now you have it in your hands and it's still warm! You take a bite, your mouth begins to water as you chew the funnel cake up. The fair food is always the best. That's the most important reason we go to the county fair so often. You can never resist the smells and once you smell something, you have to get it. If you've been to the county fair then you know what I'm talking about, the food is great!

Just as you finish eating your funnel cake, you notice you have been wandering around. You look up and there is the Fireball. The Fireball is a large roller coaster that moves in a vertical circle, so yes you are going upside down. You are worried about getting on the ride because you just ate, but those blue and red flashing bulbs dazzle you. Before you know it you are just like a moth drawn to a porch light. You are on the ride going forwards, then backwards and before you know it you are upside down. Everyone around you is screaming but you're not, you're trying to hold down that funnel cake. It bet it doesn't taste as good coming up, then going down. The rush of adrenaline is why I am addicted to fair rides.

If you haven't got my point by now, you can easily realize I LOVE THE COUNTY FAIR! The part about being with your friends and having a good time, then you have the best tasting food ever, and of course the rides that circulate adrenaline all through your body. Maybe (if you haven't experienced the county fair yet) you will understand why I'm so passionate about going to the fair every year.

Anchor Paper 18 (page 3 of 3)**Score Point 6**

This insightful response is focused on the many reasons the writer goes back to the Putnam County Fair year after year. The writer offers three reasons for returning to the fair and develops those reasons with a logical progression of ideas. A well-developed introduction and conclusion frame the writer's discussion and contribute to a sense of completeness. The sense of completeness is further strengthened by the clear use of transitional devices (*You just got off your favorite ride, you look ahead while laughing with your friends and you see a food cart*). Supporting details for each reason are specific, relevant, and illustrative, demonstrating the writer's passionate involvement with the subject (*The large red sign says funnel cakes. You try to stay distant but it doesn't work, and it seems like all those tasty morsels are calling out to you. "Eat me, Eat me". You rush over there, slam five dollars down on the cart and say "One funnel cake please. With extra powder sugar." The vender dashes a little more powdered sugar on the freshest funnel cake there. Now you have it in your hands and it's still warm!*). The command of language is mature, evident in the freshness of expression and the varied sentence structure (*You are worried about getting on the ride because you just ate, but those blue and red flashing bulbs dazzle you. Before you know it you are just like a moth drawn to a porch light. You are on the ride going forwards, then backwards, and before you know it you are upside down. Everyone around you is screaming, but you're not, you're trying to hold down that funnel cake*). Few convention errors occur.