



2014 FCAT 2.0 WRITING

GRADE 8
EXPOSITORY PROMPT
ANCHOR SET



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Introduction
2	Score Point 1
5	Score Point 2
10	Score Point 3
16	Score Point 4
23	Score Point 5
30	Score Point 6

INTRODUCTION

Beginning with the 2012-13 school year, the name of Florida’s statewide writing assessment changed to FCAT 2.0 Writing because of two primary changes to the assessment: (1) the increased scoring expectations that were implemented in 2012 and (2) an increase of 15 minutes for responding to the writing prompt implemented in 2013.

The FCAT 2.0 Writing assessment was administered in February 2014 to students in grades 4, 8, and 10, and the student responses were scored following the administration. Prior to the scoring session, Florida educators who serve on the Writing Raterfinder Committees read student responses and selected papers to represent the range of quality allowed within the established criteria for each score point on the rubric. These papers were used to train the readers for the holistic scoring of the 2014 FCAT 2.0 Writing responses. Each anchor set (scoring guide) included 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 were responsible for training, assisting, and monitoring readers throughout the training and holistic scoring process. All scoring was 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 2.0 Writing rubrics are available at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/rubrcpag.asp>.

Structure of Anchor Sets

The released 2014 FCAT 2.0 Writing Anchor Sets for grades 4, 8, and 10 contain examples of responses used as training materials for the 2014 writing assessment. Personal information has been removed or fictionalized to protect the identity of the student. For spring 2014, only one type of prompt per grade was administered for FCAT 2.0 Writing; thus, for each tested grade, one Anchor Set was used.

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

When people think about Florida, they often think about beaches, sports, or certain animals.

If you had to choose one thing that best represents Florida, what would it be?

Now write to explain the thing that best represents Florida to you.

Anchor Paper 1 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 1

I think oranges best represent florida because florida grows alot of oranges. The warm climate allows the oranges to grow. The oranges best represent florida because they grow commonly in florida from the warm climate. Oranges grow alot in Florida because of the warm climate. Oranges grow alot in Florida because of the rain.

Anchor Paper 1
Score Point 1

- The writing minimally addresses the topic of why oranges best represent Florida, but the brevity of the response makes it difficult to identify a focus. A loosely related idea provides little insight (*Oranges grow alot in Florida because of the rain*).
- List-like details reveal a lack of organization. The writing lacks transitions, and no conclusion has been attempted.
- Support consists of a series of repetitive statements explaining why oranges grow in Florida (*The warm climate allows the oranges to grow. The oranges best represent florida because they grow commonly in florida from the warm climate*).
- A lack of sentence variety produces a monotonous rhythm. Conventions errors occur in basic capitalization (*florida*) and spelling (*alot*).

Anchor Paper 2 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 1

I Choose one thing about in florida, It's Sports it is about more than 5 million people that love the passion about games, You now why because Soccer, basketball, Track, Golf, hockey, football, Tennis, bollyball, and all the other Sport's. They watch it on t.v even baseball to Cause they see that all the other's have talent in thing's that best for florida. Million of people love seeing Sports.

And, when people have a game that's coming up like wade, and lebron Micheal Jordan that's on the heat team they is the famous people that's play's basketball this why they love them they have energy, Strong and tall in plus alot of hard worker's to to willing to be on the team, In florida we the people that celebrate's in them love them

Anchor Paper 2

Score Point 1

- The writing minimally addresses the topic (*I choose one thing about in florida, It's Sport's*). Scattershot details reveal a lack of focus.
- The paper is an incoherent listing of related ideas, and little evidence of an organizational pattern is apparent.
- Attempts to extend support fail to clarify the topic, as limited word choice obscures meaning (*They watch it on t.v even baseball to cause they see that all the other's have talent in things that best for florida*).
- Gross errors in sentence structure impede communication (*And, when people have a game that's coming up like wade, and lebron Micheal Jordan that's on the heat team they is the famous people that's play's basketball*). Frequent and blatant errors occur in the basic conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 3 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 1

I love the Florida Gators. Because the Florida Gators are the best team in Florida. It represents Florida because most people in Florida love the Gators. Most people in Florida love the Gators because that may be their favorite team or maybe they just like the Gators. Some people even like the mascots. Also some people even like the cheerleaders. That's why I love the Florida Gators. One time last year I went to Florida Gator Game with my Mom. That day I was very sick. So we only stayed until close to halftime. So that day I did not feel too good. Even though I was sick that day I still had a good time. And I quote November 5, 2011.

Anchor Paper 3

Score Point 1

- The writing addresses the topic of why the Florida Gators represent Florida. A loosely related anecdote blurs the focus (*One time last year I went to Florida Gator Game with my Mom. That day I was very sick*).
- The response contains a few basic transitions that do little to promote a progression of ideas (*Some people even like the mascots. Also some people even like the cheerleaders. That's why I love the Florida Gators*).
- Little development of support is apparent, and vague details limit understanding of the topic (*Most people in Florida love the Gators. Most people in Florida love the Gators because that may be their favorite team or maybe they just like the Gators*).
- Some errors occur in the basic conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 4 (page 1 of 1)

Score Point 2

In Florida I think that it is the oranges that best represent Florida. When driving in Florida you can sometimes see orange trees with oranges on them. There are many oranges on one tree and there are many orange trees in Florida. Also if you go to a store in Florida you will find oranges. There is even a place called orange county. If you look at the back plate of a car from Florida it has an orange on it. In Florida oranges have a very big part in life here. Oranges are one of the biggest a qualities Florida has. Other states have what they have but Florida has the orange. In no other state can you eat an orange straight from the tree. That is one of the reasons i think oranges represent Florida best. Another reson is because Florida makes money selling oranges. Oranges from Florida actually represent Florida. Florida is controlling the oranges America has so they represent Florida. And that is why oranges best represent Florida because they are in large quantity theyre a big part of life and can only be found in Florida.

Anchor Paper 4

Score Point 2

- The response is related to the topic of why oranges best represent Florida. General statements weaken the focus (*In florida oranges have a very big part in life hear. Oranges are one of the biggest qualities Florida has*).
- Basic transitions suggest a limited attempt at organization. The writing establishes few connections between sentences, however (*There is even a place called orange county. If you look at the back plate of a car from Florida it has an orange on it*). The concluding sentence summarizes the three main ideas in the response (*they are in large quantity thayre a big part of life and can only be found in Florida*).
- Attempts to extend support provide little clarity (*In no other state can you eat an orange straight from the tree. That is one of the reasons i think oranges represent Florida best. Another reson is because Florida makes money selling oranges*). Word choice is limited and vague.
- Errors in basic conventions occur, including misspellings of commonly used words (*bigest, reson, actualy, thay*).

My essay is about Florida and what is best represents Florida's Beautiful Beaches. Wow! Florida is such a beautiful place. I love Florida's Beaches because, it's always nice and sunny. The amazing Beaches water is always just right and beautiful. You can also play in the sand, and the play ground. The play ground is always fun for little kids.

But, there are a couple of things I don't like about it is when you go in the water some times crabs pinch you. They also leave a mark. Another thing I don't like about the Florida Beaches is some of the people there that are rude they steal your things or invade your privacy.

You should really come to the Florida's Beaches. Because, you would just love all of the amazing things it has to offer for you. It is just very amazing and beautiful. You could watch the sun set go fishing, take a bike ride. But you should experience it for your self.

In conclusion Florida's Beaches is such a beautiful place to take a vacation with your family.

Anchor Paper 5 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 2

Anchor Paper 5

Score Point 2

- The writing is related to the topic of how beaches best represent Florida. Extraneous material diverts the focus (*when you go in the water some times crabs pench you. They also leave a mark*).
- In spite of paragraphing, the response contains little evidence of an organizational pattern. A hasty, inadequate conclusion points to a sense of incompleteness (*In conclusion floridas beaches is such a beatiful place to take a vaction with your family*).
- Vague and repetitive statements fail to clarify the topic (*Because, you would Just love all of the amazing things it has to ofere for you. It is Just very amazing and Beautiful*). Limited word choice hinders understanding.
- Errors in basic conventions occur, including incorrect punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

I think sports best represents Florida. We have some good football teams. We also have some Great Basketball teams. Last we have some very good Baseball teams.

One Sport that represents Florida is Football. We have some pretty good football teams. One good team we have is the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Another good team is The Miami Dolphins. This is only one sport that represents Florida very well.

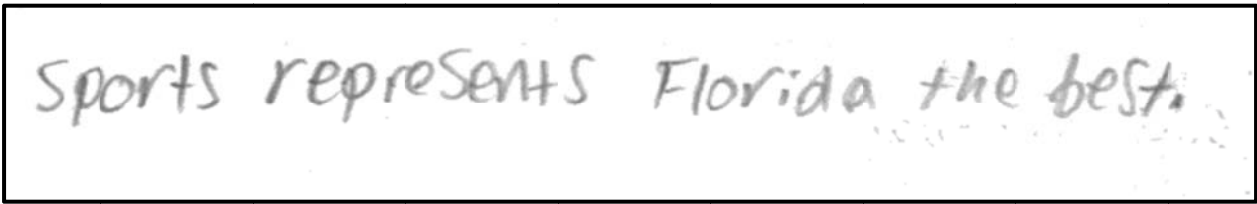
Another Sport that represents Florida is Baseball. We have some Great Baseball teams in Florida. One team we have is the Miami Marlins. Another Great team is the Tampa Bay Rays. This is a sport that also represents Florida Really well.

The last sport that represents Florida is Basketball. We have some of the Best teams in the NBA in Florida. We have The Miami Heat who won the NBA championship last year. Also we have the Orlando Magic. This is probably the Sport that represents Florida the best.

These are only some reasons I think

Anchor Paper 6 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 2



Sports represents Florida the best.

Anchor Paper 6

Score Point 2

- The response is focused on how sports best represent Florida.
- Rudimentary transitions begin each topic sentence (*One Sport, Another sport, The last sport*), and the overreliance on the formulaic organizational pattern results in a stilted quality in the writing.
- Support is inadequate, consisting of list-like details (*One team we have is the Miami Marlins. Another Great team is the Tampa Bay Rays*). Repetitive phrasing creates a false impression of substance (*One sport, One good team, Another sport, One team*).
- Overuse of simple sentence structure produces a predictable reading experience (*We have some good football teams. We also have some Great Basketball teams. Last we have some very good Baseball teams*). A few errors occur in the basic conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Salty air surrounds you. Fresh breezes run through your skin, and the sun's warmth beats down on you. Seagulls chirping for food. Beaches are very peaceful. Beaches represent Florida.

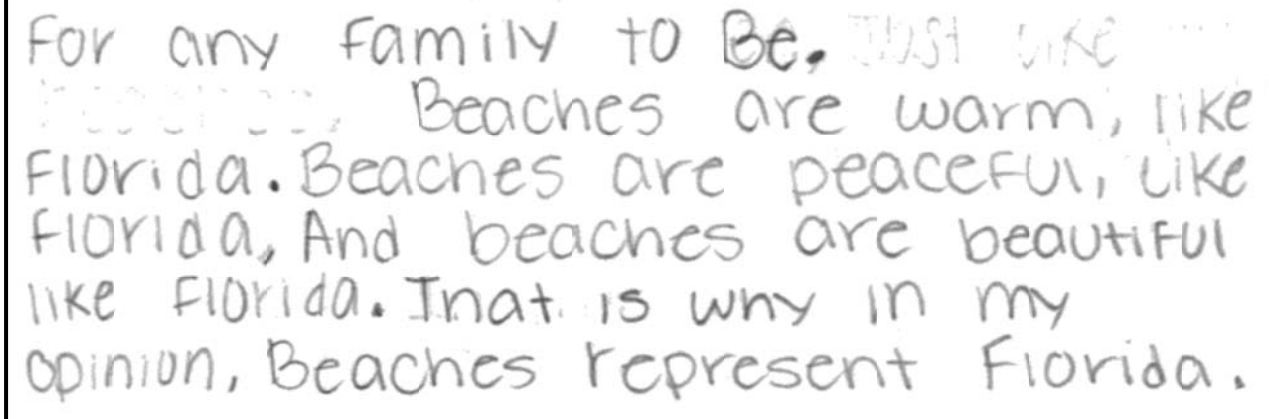
Florida is known as The Sunshine State. Warm and hot might be one way to describe Florida. Beaches represent Florida because beaches are hot and warm with nice cold water. Beaches have palm trees, and palm trees are the trees that represent Florida State.

Beaches are relaxing. Waves swooshing and splashing making such a peaceful sound. Palm trees swaying back and forth sounding like beautiful rain sticks. Soft sand stuck between your toes. Thousands of tourists come to Florida every year because of beaches. Photographers love the sunset.

Beaches are beautiful. Families have so much fun at beaches. It's a beautiful sight to see moms and dad's building sand castles with their kids. Babies swimming around in the shallow water. Florida is naturally a very gorgeous and beautiful place.

Anchor Paper 7 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 3



For any family to be, just like Florida. Beaches are warm, like Florida. Beaches are peaceful, like Florida, And beaches are beautiful like Florida. That is why in my opinion, Beaches represent Florida.

Anchor Paper 7

Score Point 3

- The writing establishes a focus through a descriptive opening (*Salty air surrounds you. Fresh breezes Run through your skin, and the sun's warmth beats down on you*).
- Body paragraphs contain related ideas, but an absence of transitions obscures the connection between them. A simple conclusion summarizes the ideas in the response (*Beaches are warm, like Florida. Beaches are peaceful, like Florida, And beaches are beautiful like Florida*).
- An attempt to extend support strengthens the expository purpose. List-like details, however, only slightly advance the topic (*waves swishing a splashing making such a peaceful sound. Palm tree's swaying back and forth sounding like beautiful rain sticks. Soft sand stuck between your toes*). Word choice is adequate but occasionally vague.
- There is little variation in sentence structure. Knowledge of the conventions of mechanics and usage is usually demonstrated, and commonly used words are usually spelled correctly.

GO GATORS! The first thing I think of when I think or see the word Florida? Sports, duh. Sports basically represent Florida because of the variety of sports, because of the sports Florida has we get tourists and visitors, and of course, the world famous Tim Tebow.

First, we have a very populous college called UF (UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA), home to the Florida Gators. Other than our football team coached by Will Muschamp, we have a variety of well known players. Teams for swimming, basketball, volleyball and many more. Even though the Florida Gators are a college team, if you're good enough you could get easily drafted by the professional league.

Secondly, sports best represent Florida because of all the visitors that come to watch the game. During a game day in downtown Gainesville you can see tailgating left and right. I always love trying to bring family to Gainesville, they always have a blast and want to come, I don't blame

them.

LAST, but not least a reason sports represent Florida is the now world famous Tim Tebow. Tim Tebow got drafted so he became a professional football player. He is known for "The Tebow" and so is Florida. Say the name Florida and they'll think of the old quarter - back Tim Tebow.

In conclusion, Florida is mostly known for the football team, but also the variety of sports, also the many people who come visit makes Florida so popular. Last the great Tim Tebow who basically started from a little football player catches peoples attention. Why not come over? Think of all the fun you could have.

Anchor Paper 8

Score Point 3

- The writing is generally focused on the topic (*The first thing I think of when I think or see the word Florida? Sports, duh*).
- An organizational pattern is attempted through the use of an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Formulaic transitions introduce each paragraph (*First, Secondly, Last, In conclusion*).
- Some support is included, but details are often general (*we have a variety of well known players. Teams for swimming, basketball, volleyball and many more. Even though The Florida Gators are a college team, if you're good enough you could get easily drafted by the professional league*).
- The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

When you think of Florida, what comes into your mind? Beaches are the one thing that pops in my brain.

I moved here to Florida from [Anchorage, Alaska] about three years ago. My family was very eager to visit the beaches, instead of [Prince William] Sound. We went to the beach almost every weekend. We could not get enough! Beaches are a great place for surfing. Many surfers come to Florida for the Beaches.

Florida has a huge variety of beaches to visit. From Neptune, to Ponte Vedra, to even San Destin over by the Gulf of Mexico. If you want to see the Atlantic Ocean then you visit the east coast of Florida, but to see the Gulf, you want to be located around the west coast or panhandle of this state.

Now that I live here in Florida, my family that still live in [Alaska], love to come visit. When they come, we enjoy bringing them to different beaches. My Aunt, Uncle and Cousin are coming very soon, and I am sure we will go to a beach. Whenever my Grandma travels down to see us, we take her to the beach to find shells. The Shells are her souvenirs from Florida. Tourist also arrive here in

Anchor Paper 9 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 3

Florida for beaches. They are for sure a visitor hot spot.

Beaches are deffinitely the most accurate representation of Florida. In the future I will recomend Florida beaches for my friends and family to see.

Anchor Paper 9

Score Point 3

- Written from the perspective of a newcomer to the state, the response generally focuses on how beaches represent Florida (*I moved here to Florida from [Anchorage, Alaska] about three years ago; Now that I live here in Florida; In the future I will recomend Florida beaches for my friends and family to see*).
- The organizational pattern includes a brief introduction, three body paragraphs, and a concise conclusion. Internal transitions promote cohesion among sentences (*From Neptune, to Ponte Vedra; If you want to see the Atlantic Ocean; but to see the Gulf*). The progression of ideas between paragraphs is less effective.
- Some support is included, but missed opportunities for further development prevent the reader from gaining more than a cursory understanding of the topic (*We went to the beach almost every weekend. We could not get enough! Beaches are a great place for surfing. Many surfers come to Florida for the Beaches*).
- The writing contains some attempts to vary sentence structures (*Whenever my Grandma travels down to see us, we take her to the beach to find shells. The Shells are her suveneers from Florida*). Knowledge of the conventions of mechanics and usage is usually demonstrated, and commonly used words are usually spelled correctly.

The Golden Beaches of Florida

Florida to me is my home and whenever I leave the state and am returning the one thing that I think about is the beach. The golden sandy beaches are a perfect natural treasure that can represent Florida. These many beaches represent Florida as well because whenever you see Florida on a map it's surrounded by water and what greets the water with much joy are the beaches. The beaches have much to offer including the oceanic wildlife that resides in the water, fun for the family, and of course many sights to all.

One of the great things about Florida are its beaches, and these beaches are known for their wildlife. You can find a great quantity of life at the beach and in its water, like the seaweed or a coral reef, or underwater caves. If you are a diver this would let you experience many great wonders and even find something of great value like prehistoric shark teeth.

And if you aren't a diver than you could still have fun with your family or by yourself. There is much to do at the beach all of which are fun. You could go out into the water and body surf the gentle waves allowing them to carry you back to the shore. If you're a family man no problem you can use some of the seawater to build sand castles and start a contest with your family.

Don't want to get wet no problem almost all beaches have a boatride. These boatrides are both educational and fun, in the center of the boat there is a glass floor; this glass floor allows you to explore the world that is submerged without getting wet. You will see many great things from colorful fish to beautiful coral reefs.

Florida is a great place and is best known for its beaches for their great fun, wildlife, and for their great natural sights to be seen. I hope that you can now see Florida as I do.

Anchor Paper 10 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 4

Anchor Paper 10

Score Point 4

- The writing is generally focused on the topic. Each body paragraph covers a different aspect of Florida beaches (wildlife, activities to do at the beach, boat rides).
- Topic sentences serve as transitions connecting ideas (*And if you aren't a diver than you could still have fun with your family or by yourself, Don't want to get wet no problem almost all beaches have a boatride*).
- Adequate depth and specificity of support, including word choice, enhance the reader's understanding of the topic (*These boatrides are both educational and fun, in the center of the boat there is a glass floor; this glass floor allows you to explore the world that is submerged without getting wet. You will see many great things from colorful fish to beautiful coral reefs*).
- Sentence structure is somewhat varied, and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

With no doubt, I absolutely love Florida! For me the best part about it is the warm weather! There is a bonanza of things to do in warm weather. You could go to the beach/pool, theme parks, or (best of all) have some icecream.

My favorite part about warm weather is that you can go on a nice trip to the beach! I love the feeling of the warm white sand in between my toes, the sound of the foamy waves crashing, and the hot sun beating down on my back. When I go I tune everyone out, it's just me and the beach. It's like I'm on a tiny island (like the ones in the cartoons). There's one palm tree in the middle with perfect brown coconuts in the center. Nothing but the salty ocean surrounds me. I'm lying on a white polka dot towel... alone.

Another really fun thing to do during the warm weather is going to theme parks! Florida is known for its theme parks! There's universal, island of adventures, Disney, animal kingdom, etc. Each one has its own unique style. Theme parks are perfect for warm days in Florida! Personally, I think island of adventures is the best. The best ride is the Hulk. It sounds

scary and looks scary but it's not. The Hulk is a green rollercoaster with loops and turns. Once you get on, a voiceover fills the room, "we're not gonna make it!" it says. Before you can blink you are going through twists and turns. Now that's an adventure!

Lastly, after a long hot day at the beach or theme park, you're going to be hungry and thirsty. The solution would be icecream! A cold icy treat to end a warm day. What I find challenging is picking a flavor, chocolate, vanilla, strawberry, or all! With one lick I can feel the cold liquid travel down my esophagus. That's a perfect day!

Whether you're at a beach, theme park, or icecream parlor, Florida has the best weather for anyone to go outside, to be active! How could you ignore the luxurious weather of Florida?

Anchor Paper 11 (page 3 of 3)**Score Point 4****Anchor Paper 11****Score Point 4**

- The writing is generally focused on warm weather (*For me the best part about it is the warm weather!*). Subtopics are broadly related to the overall focus (*You could go to the beach/pool, theme parks, or (best of all) have some icecream*).
- A basic introduction lays out a conventional organizational pattern that is followed up in the body paragraphs. A succinct conclusion contributes to some sense of completeness (*Whether your at a beach, themepark, or icecream parlor Florida has the best weather for anyone to go outside, to be active! How could you ignore the luxurious weather of Florida?*). The second body paragraph features a thorough description of theme parks (*Florida is known for its theme parks! There's universal, island of adventures, Disney, animal kingdom, etc. Each one has its own unique style. Theme parks are perfect for warm days in Florida! Personally, I think island of adventures is the best. The best ride is the Hulk. It sounds scary and looks scary but it's not. The Hulk is a green rollercoaster with loops and turns*). Support in the following paragraph lacks similar depth. The writing contains some precise vocabulary (*foamy waves, polka dot towel, voiceover*). Overall, however, word choice is adequate (*nice trip, really fun, the best*).
- The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Well, I'm originally from [Suntown,] Florida so I know a lot about it. People from other states, and countries may have their opinions on Florida. Everyone knows it as being called the sunshine state. The thing that I think best represents Florida is the beaches we have here. I have so many reasons on why I feel like ^{this} but I'm only giving three. First is because it's a place where people can go and enjoy themselves, people celebrate certain occasions at certain beaches, and it's the main place to be or go over the summer.

The beach is a very nice enjoyable place for people to go. There are plenty things to do at the beach. Not just for kids but adults too. For kids they can make sand castles, play tag, little game of Frisbee. The adults get tans, read books, drink, play volleyball, and Frisbee, and get in the water and do what they please. If you're a teenager then it might be a little different, like taking pictures, hanging out with friends getting tans, surfing and swimming. Either way it goes for people go to the beach with their family and friends and have a good time.

When going to the beach you don't always have to dress in beach attire, and do the obvious things at the beach like getting in water and playing. You can go to the beach and just have a get together or party. For example on the 4th of July and New Year's many people go to the beach and pop firecrackers, and do other fun things. I know people who go to the beach wait till 12:00 on New Year's and party all night long. People can have a birthday party, or a wedding at a beach. Certain beaches in Florida can be very beautiful that's why people have weddings and things of that nature there.

Florida is the sunshine state, so you know when the summer time comes everybody is at the beach. Especially me.

Anchor Paper 12 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 4

you get to stay at the beach as long as you want, because there's no school tomorrow. In the summertime in Florida it can get really hot. When there is that specific extremely hot day people go straight to the beach or pool. Over the summer it's the best time for people to get tans and have fun in the water. Doing different activities while in or on the water, for example riding on a boat fishing, surfing, and getting on Jet Ski's. All these activities require energy, happiness, and enjoyment.

In conclusion, I've told you the thing I think that best represents Florida. The thing I chose was the beach. I gave three specific reasons. Those reasons were it's a place for people to enjoy themselves, somewhere people celebrate certain occasions, and over the summer that's the place to be or go. I've basically explained and told you that the beach is a fun, active, relaxing place to be or go and have fun at in Florida.

Anchor Paper 12

Score Point 4

- The writing is generally focused on the topic (*The thing that I think best represents Florida is the beaches we have here*).
- The apparent organizational pattern includes an introduction and three body paragraphs followed by an awkward conclusion that essentially describes the writing process (*I've told you the thing I think that best represents Florida. The thing I chose was the beach. I gave three specific reasons*).
- Support, including word choice, is adequate, but development is uneven. The first body paragraph contains little more than a list of activities. The third body paragraph, however, explores its subject in greater depth (*In the summertime in Florida it can get really hot. When there is that specific extremely hot day people go straight to the beach or pool. Over the summer it's the best time for people to get tans and have fun in the water. Doing different activities while in or on the water, for example riding on a boat fishing, surfing, and getting on Jet Ski's*).
- There is some variation in sentence structure. Although some errors occur, the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Florida isn't just one of those states that people look at and just see it as a place. Beaches are one thing you will never forget when you leave Florida. I believe beaches best represent Florida.

To begin with, Florida has the perfect weather for a beach trip. Weather is a big factor when it comes to going to the beach. With Florida's hot, sunny climate, during the summer it makes beach trips in Florida perfect. I remember one time last summer my family and I took a trip to Cocoa beach. The weather was just right to get in the water. The sun was blazing down on the beach which made it just perfect to get in the cool, refreshing ocean water without it being too cold. Another thing we did at the beach that week was tan. The sunny weather would give you that perfect glow within minutes. Florida's sunny weather really gave you the chance to get that look you wanted from your vacation trip to Florida and play in the water without the weather being too cold. Florida's weather makes beaches the perfect symbol to represent Florida.

In addition, Florida has a variety of beaches to visit. Because Florida is a peninsula it doesn't just have one beach it has many varieties. For example a popular beach people like to visit is Clear water beach. This beach has many unique shells along the shore. It also has nice crystal clear water that you can see straight through. Clear water also has dolphins

Anchor Paper 13 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 5

that visit sometimes. Clear water is just one beach that you visit for the site but Daytona is another beach known for its big waves. Daytona is a beach people go mainly for the fun because of its huge waves. One time I went to Daytona during the summer. We were out in the waves waiting to plunge into one and get the experience of diving into Daytona's ^{famous} waves. While excitement was gaining we saw a big wave coming across the ocean. It was thrilling when the wave got close to us and was taller than me and my friend put together! We dove through the wave and it was great. The wave really made our day. Florida ^{has} different beaches that are built for fun, relaxing, or just for the site. The variety of beaches in Florida make beaches the best feature to represent Florida.

In conclusion, Florida has many extravagant features, but out of all of Florida many features best think beaches are the best pick to represent Florida.

Anchor Paper 13

Score Point 5

- The writing focuses on two aspects of Florida's beaches, dedicating a paragraph to each (perfect weather and variety of beaches).
- The response follows a clear organizational plan with a succinct introduction, thorough body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Each paragraph begins with a rudimentary transition but is strengthened by a clear topic sentence (*To begin with, Florida has the perfect weather for a beach trip; In addition, Florida has a variety of beaches to visit*).
- Support is ample and consistent. Relevant anecdotes illustrate the main points (*With Florida's hot sunny climate, during the summer it makes beach trips in Florida perfect. I remember one time last summer my family and I took a trip to Cocoa beach. The weather was just right to get in the water. The sun was blazing down on the beach which made it just perfect to get in the cool refreshing ocean water without it being too cold*).
- The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Cow! You glance towards the sea, blue sky, to notice that a beautiful, graceful eagle is soaring across scattered treetops with a six-inch red snapper in its gigantic claws. You might be thinking how amazing this is. You can see that sight when you're living that wonderful Florida life.

The nature in Florida offers so much to show you. I always notice something new and spectacular everyday when I'm just walking around. Another thing to add is the sea creatures that speed through the ocean. If you look close enough, sometimes you can't see multiple fishes in a school or racing away from their predators. Also, it's a spectacular sight to see the giant, ferocious fishes strolling through the water. In Florida, coral reefs are amazing destinations to snorkel at. Coral reefs are always super colorful and have varieties of different wildlife for you to explore. Just beware of the red coral (fire coral) which will burn like crazy for a long time!

Another bodacious thing about Florida are the trees. They are all so unique in their ways. Some trees are big, some are small, some are fat, and some are tall. Trees are also well known for being an animals very own shelter. It is common for squirrels to hibernate in trees during the winter so they can survive the chilly weather. Some of the barks on trees are edible for humans to eat.

The last thing I will tell you about Florida is the weather. In the early months from January through March is when there are the odd fronts. I love it when Florida gets cold because I never get tired when I'm playing outside and I always feel fresh. April is when the flowers and trees start to bloom.

Anchor Paper 14 (page 2 of 2)

Score Point 5

again and the weather starts to heat back up to its natural Florida weather. May through September are usually the hot months of the Sunshine State which is when people start to go back to the beach. On the flip side, it's also when animals are ending their hibernation and become free again. October is when the weather is slowly dropping on the thermometer. November and December is when the weather drops to its winter temperatures again. This cycle repeats like the New York Yankees winning the World Series Championship.

To conclude, I can state that Florida is a breath-taking state that I love to live in. Everyday is like an adventure for me. If you have never been to Florida before, then I suggest you visit some time in your life. I can 100% guarantee that you will never want to leave!

Anchor Paper 14

Score Point 5

- The writing establishes a focus through a descriptive opening (*Caw! Caw! You glance towards the sea blue sky to notice that a beautiful, graceful eagle is soaring across scattered treetops with a six-inch red snapper in its gigantic claws*).
- The organizational pattern consists of an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Transitions reinforce connections between ideas (*Another thing, If you look close enough, Also, In Florida*).
- Overall, support is ample. Precise and purposeful word choices illuminate the topic (*predators, fire coral, hibernate, cold fronts*).
- Varied sentence structures lend fluency to the writing (*Another thing to add is the sea creatures that speed through the ocean. If you look close enough, sometimes you can see multiple fish in a school or racing away from their predators*), and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

With so many amazing things about the sunshine state, choosing one thing that best represents it is a challenge. One thing that stands out in best representing Florida is its atmosphere because all of the people here are fun-loving and unique, the food is decadent and delicious, and because there are so many exciting things to do and experience. Florida is a one of a kind state that millions of people get to experience each year. Even with so many other exotic places to see in the world, people come here. Florida is the jewel of the East coast with so many qualities about it that make it shine and sparkle brighter than all the others.

To begin with, one thing that Florida's atmosphere has to offer is the fun-loving and unique people. Everyone walking down the street is smiling from ear to ear and excited for their next adventure in this marvelous state. Plus Florida has a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds from all around the world. There is definitely no shortage of people here! Florida's people are also very fun and generous. You can always see someone lending a helping hand or ready to start dancing when their favorite song comes on. Florida has a place for everyone no matter where you are from or what you are like. You can always fit in.

Furthermore, Florida's atmosphere has decadent and delicious food. Every bakery in Florida has treats that taste like they were made with pure gold and dishes in restaurants that were as if

they were made by gods. With the huge variety in Florida, we have food from all around the world. When you take a bite of any dish, it is as if your tastebuds went on a trip around the world. They could be meditating in China or dancing the tango in Argentina. The mouth watering food is just one of many other things that make its atmosphere the best thing to describe Florida.

Lastly, there is always plenty to do and experience in Florida. You can take a swim on a scorching day in one of Florida's world famous beaches. Or visit one of the many theme parks that rest in Florida for a trip that is out of this world. And there is no shortage of sports! From the Miami Heat to the Miami Dolphins, there is always time for fun to cheer on your favorite team as they strive for victory. Boredom is never an option in the Sunshine state.

In conclusion, one thing that best represents Florida is its atmosphere because, everyone is upbeat and vibrant, the food is mouth watering and decadent, and because there are so many exciting things to see and do here. Florida is a place for fun and excitement. For self-discovery and adventure.

Florida is a place that you can never forget because it stays with you. Its memory lives in your heart for the rest of your life because the atmosphere it has, left you speechless.

Anchor Paper 15 (page 3 of 3)

Score Point 5

Anchor Paper 15

Score Point 5

- The writing establishes a clear focus in the introduction (*Florida is the jewel of the East coast with so many qualities about it that make it shine and sparkle brighter than all the others*). Each paragraph ends with a sentence that reinforces the overall theme (*You can always fit in, The mouth watering food is just one of many other things that make its atmosphere the best thing to describe Florida, Borden is never an option in the Sunshine State*).
- The organizational plan provides for a progression of ideas. The conclusion leaves the reader with a sense of completeness (*Florida is a place that you can never forget because it stays with you. Its memory lives in your heart for the rest of your life because the atmosphere it has, left you speechless*).
- Support is ample and consistent, and playful turns of phrase demonstrate a mature command of language (*jewel of the East coast, as if they were made by gods, They [your tastebuds] could be meditating in China or dancing the tango in Argentina*).
- Sentence structure is varied, including purposeful use of fragments (*Florida is a place for fun and excitement. For self-discovery and adventure*). The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Welcome to Florida, the Sunshine State. The first thing that came to your mind was a beach, wasn't it? The soft beige sand, rolling turquoise surf, green palm trees swaying, birds flying, sun shining. That's the first thing that comes to a lot of people's mind when they think of Florida, and our beaches are a great thing to represent our state. Beaches are popular, and very diverse in appearance and in the people who are there. The landscape is gorgeous and covers our whole coast, and beaches offer something for everyone. So c'mon in and get a taste of Florida.

Florida's beaches are world famous. People come from all over to spend a few days at the shore. This makes them very diverse in culture. You can see people of every shape, size, age, and nationality all together having fun. However, the culture and people aren't the only diverse thing at the beach. There are beaches all over Florida, and each one is different. Some have soft white sand, others have coarse yellow-gray sand full of every type of shell imaginable, and others still have an entire shoreline of rocks. In some places, the waves are calm and the water is shallow and light. In others, there are huge curling waves and deep drop-offs. The type of people you see can depend on the type of beach. You may see more families with young children at a beach with a calm surf and soft sand, or a group of friends having a party. Yet a beach with a rough surf may lure the more adventurous people, like surfers. Florida's beaches are very diverse, but they all have one thing in common. They are a lot of fun and enjoyable for any age.

When people think Florida, they think beaches. When you see a picture of a beautiful sunset on the water or a hammock swinging between two bent palm trees, it was most likely taken in Florida. Although not all of our state is beaches, a lot of it is, and they represent it well. Photographers from around the world come to Florida to capture the beautiful blues and striking greens of the Atlantic, the tall thin palm trees with curved trunks and electric green

leaves, the birds flying low near the ocean or running in the surf, dolphins leaping in the air, silhouetted behind a striking orange sunset, or even something as simple as footprints in the sand. Many people have weddings at the beach, or come to take a family photo, simply for the beauty and overall pleasantness of the landscape. I will admit, in some places a beach may be a little dirty or crowded. Yet the rest of Florida is the same as the beaches. Some places may not be stunning, but the overall effect is beautiful.

There is something for everyone at the beach. That makes them popular vacation spots. You can snorkel or scuba dive with a rainbow of fish in the reef, catch a wave off the shore, build a sand castle fit for a king, fish on a boat, take a yoga class or workout session, listen to music and party with friends, or just relax. The possibilities are endless. Go for a day and do what you want when you want to, or come for a week and plan activities. Fly a kite, go parasailing, shop all day, anything you want. Get closer to your family or friends and have fun. You will never be bored.

~~While~~ While Florida is well-known for its beaches, there is more about them than you think. Get a taste of almost any culture and explore different settings, marvel at our incredible landscape of soft sands and rolling waters, and find some of the thousands of possible activities to enjoy. You don't have to go everywhere to see Florida. Just come to the beach, for everything about our state can be represented there.

Anchor Paper 16 (page 3 of 3)**Score Point 6****Anchor Paper 16****Score Point 6**

- The response maintains a clear focus throughout, and the writing builds to a unifying point in the conclusion (*You don't have to go everywhere to see Florida. Just come to the beach, for everything about our state can be represented there*).
- The organizational pattern provides for a progression of ideas through an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Effective transitions guide the reader through the response (*This, However, Some, others, others still*).
- Support is substantial. Specific details deepen the reader's understanding of the topic (*There are beaches all over Florida, and each one is different. Some have soft white sand, others have coarse yellow-gray sand full of every type of shell imaginable, and others still have an entire shoreline of rocks. In some places, the waves are calm and the water is shallow and light. In others, there are huge curling waves and deep drop-offs*).
- Sentence variety facilitates an effortless reading experience (*Although not all of our state is beaches, a lot of it is, and they represent it well. Photographers from around the world come to Florida to capture the beautiful blues and striking greens of the Atlantic, the tall thin palm trees with curved trunks and electric green leaves, the birds flying low near the ocean or running in the surf, dolphins leaping in the air, silhouetted behind a striking orange sunset, or even something as simple as footprints in the sand*). Few errors occur in the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Disney World is one of those places that is so highly spoken of and adored by people from all around the globe that it is the most popular place for those cynical of the world to despise. Creating one of those unique experiences that is just so unpleasant that it becomes great is what truly makes Disney World the most magical place on Earth. Of course, all kids under the age of ten will complain without refrain the entire trip, but no amount of walking will keep them from begging to come back. Living in Florida is unique in many ways: the lack of climate change, the lack of changes in elevation, the lack of anything interesting to do, etc, but my family is only ever a cramped three-hour drive away from equally long lines to get on two-minute rides. I couldn't think of a better place to live.

Walt Disney spent his career with an image in his head of a wonderland for the future. Disney World is a tourist trap that charges \$17 for a bottle of water. Florida is the setting of a large-scale Ponzi Scheme and everyone still has no idea. Nothing says Florida more to me than Disney because it sends out its line and can reel in park-goers over oceans and continents. There is something so magnetic about Adventureland, Tomorrowland, and Fantasyland that nobody would ever bother to think twice about the level of accuracy. The pessimist inside of me screams negative comments of everything, when at the end of the day, just like living in Florida, the theme park has some great qualities.

In addition, I love listening to crickets. I love falling asleep while letting myself tune in and out to their chirping. At home, this is no problem. But in Epcots, Asia, and anywhere else in the park, there is a plethora of commotion: people complaining, children running around, and there's always a baby crying some where. What an effort to hear a cricket while battling through groups of 20+ elementary schoolers in matching yellow T-shirts. Still, the hour spent waiting for Test Track all became worth it for those six minutes where we went really fast. Also, once I'm feeling peckish, I can always buy a 13 pound turkey leg at a kiosk conveniently stationed every 2 feet. It really is fantastic.

It's always nice in Florida, how it will begin to rain spontaneously and 70% of the time that happens in conjunction with taking the dog for a walk. Only in Disney World, everything is outside, so, for an easy million dollars, there are rain ponchos for purchase. That is, for those who don't keep their own in their fanny packs. I'm still befuddled as to why people don't just live in Disney World.

Conclusively, when I think of Florida, there's lots of things I don't like but there's lots that I do, and Disney World is just the same. It's not about Cinderella Castle, or the rides, it's about family. Florida is flat; it was ideal to build a theme park. Only it was fate that put me so close; sarcasm and all. Florida is home to me, and nothing says home like annual passes.

Anchor Paper 17 (page 3 of 3)

Score Point 6

Anchor Paper 17

Score Point 6

- Sarcastic humor enlivens the writing and strengthens the focus (*Living in Florida is unique in many ways: the lack of climate change, the lack of changes in elevation, the lack of anything interesting to do, etc; but my family is only ever a cramped three-hour drive away from equally long lines to get on two-minute rides*).
- The organizational pattern includes an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Varied and appropriate transitions clarify relationships between ideas (*In addition; At home; But in Epcot's; Still; Also, once I'm feeling peckish*).
- The paper demonstrates a commitment to and an involvement with the subject, adopting an appropriate creative writing strategy to inform the reader. Relevant and well-chosen details reveal a mature command of language (*large-scale Ponzy Scheme, matching yellow T-shirts, 13 pound turkey leg, fanny packs*).
- Sentence variety contributes to compositional facility. The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

I've lived in Florida all of my life, and I can't really imagine living any where else. Some of my worst, and best memories are here - and when I look at all the places I've been to ~~over the~~ ^{years}... one of my favorites would be the famous Florida beaches. If any one thing should be used to represent Florida, what better place than the shore lines crafted over millions of years that still entrance us today? Since the beginning Florida's beaches were a quality that had attracted people of ~~various~~ ^{various} races to our shores, to admire the natural beauty of our state, and to let go.

I've been to the coastline that is Florida's beaches many, many times. Miami, Hollywood, Lee Olas, -beaches all over the state. I know why so many people dream about coming here. It's a place where you forget all your responsibilities, and everything that ties you down to the future or the past, and live in the now. Now - the shimmering water splashed all directions to the sound of laughing children. Now - The soft, grainy, sand slipping beneath your feet. Now - the sun sinking lower, and lower into the horizon, staining the skies with an orange-pink tint. That's how memories are made - with the moment of Now. If I had to choose something to represent Florida, easily I would choose the place where the best kind of memories are made - where my best memories are made.

Millions of people every year visit Florida for our beaches. The beaches, the warm salty water, the exotic shells beneath the waves, the bright inviting rays of the sun - it's not a mystery why this place is such a tourist attraction. Many of Florida's businesses rely on the beaches our state is so famous for. We have boutiques, and restaurants "by the sea"; a lot of bussiness

play at that angle. Fortunately for us, tourists respond very enthusiastically to our beach activities and places. A tourist attraction as big as the beach greatly helps our economy - it's what we're so well known for. When one thinks of Florida, among many others one would mostly commonly think of the beach.

Of course, the beach isn't the only wonder in Florida, but it's one of the most beautiful. Natural beauty is a thing of every day in my home. I never get tired of the familiar swaying palm trees, or the clear sky above. One of my favorite activities in the car (if it can be considered an activity) is to look outside in the calming atmosphere of Florida, and what place more center of this quality than the calming tides of the beach? What makes my state so famous is its sparkling shores that attract tourists like moths - its natural beauty is something that is ours, and ours alone.

My amount of pride, and awe for my state of origin is something that can't possibly amount any higher. I love Florida, if I wanted it to really be represented by something, I would want it to be a place where people can think of it as fondly as I always have. A place where so many amazing memories, so many great places to visit, and where the breath-taking grace of it can really be admired. The sparkling shores of my life, and home.

Anchor Paper 18 (page 3 of 3)

Score Point 6

Anchor Paper 18

Score Point 6

- The writing is focused and purposeful. A skillful synthesis of the response's themes reflects insight into the writing situation (*I love Florida, if I wanted it to really be represented by something, I would wanted it to be a place where people can think of it as fondly as I always have. A place where so many amazing memories, so many great places to visit, and where the breath-taking grace of it can really be admired. The sparkling shores of my life, and home*).
- The paper conveys a sense of completeness and wholeness. Clear connections between sentences establish a logical progression of ideas (*Many of Florida's businesses rely on the beaches our state is so famous for. We have boutiques, and resturants "by the sea," alot of bussiness play at that angle. Fortunatly for us, tourists respond very enthusiastically to our beach activites and places. A tourist attraction as big as the beach greatly helpsour economy*).
- Support is fully developed, with substantial information and a thorough discussion of each example. Mature word choice and expressive phrasing enhance the presentation of ideas (*shore lines crafted over millions of years that still entrance us today; the sun sinking lower, and lower into the horizon; the bright inviting rays of the sun*).
- Varied sentence structures infuse the writing with energy and rhythm (*It's a place where you forget all your res ponsibilites, and everything that ties you down to the future or the past, and live in the now. Now – the shimmering water splashed all directions to the sound of laughing children. Now – The soft, grainy sand slipping beneath your feet*). In spite of a few errors, the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.