



**WRITING+**

# **FCAT 2008**

## **GRADE 8 EXPOSITORY ANCHOR SET**



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## Anchor Paper 1-A

My favorite form of transportation  
is a skateboard because I can ride  
it to school when missing my  
bus or when my mom doesn't  
have time to drive me to school

## **Anchor Paper 1-B**

### **Score Point: 1**

This response minimally addresses the topic by naming the skateboard as the favored form of transportation. There is no organizational pattern or development of support in this brief response. Few errors occur, and most commonly used words are spelled correctly.

## Anchor Paper 2-A

My favorite transportation is the bus. This go to my house to: 30 d. M. This have music, there is my friends, that is so fun.

I sit down in my chair, some time only on with my friends in the bus I look the aurora and sun.

Maybe any time I study or read my home work. In my bus have a new person. She put the music very slow but the kids put the music so alto.

Together is very funny with my brother because my brother come with my.

I think that man-  
Saw a bus is so difficult but is fun you can look the streets with the light for Christmas. The bus is perfect.

## Anchor Paper 2-B

### Score Point: 1

In this response, the student attempts to focus on the topic of the bus as a favorite form of transportation: “My faborite transportation is the bus . . . This have misic. There is mys friends. Tha is so fun.” Succeeding paragraphs refer to these three ideas as the student attempts to develop support, but the writing is limited by word choice and errors in sentence structure: “In my bus have a new person. She put the music very slow but the kids put the music so alto.” Most words are spelled correctly, but gross errors occur in basic conventions of mechanics and usage, and parts of the response are incoherent.

**Anchor Paper 3-A**

I usually ride my bike or a moped. But most of the time I'm in a car riding around. I'm too young to drive, but my dad or my friend drives. I like driving in a car because it gets you places faster. And it gets you where you got to go. This is what I usually drive in and why.

## **Anchor Paper 3-B**

### **Score Point: 1**

This response only minimally addresses the topic: “I ugley ride my bike or a moped. But most of the time Im in a car.” The student explains limitations of a car: “Im to yong to drive. But my dad or my frind drives.” Little development of support or organization is apparent, but the student gives two reasons for liking a car: “it gets you places faster” and “it gets you where you got to go.” Most basic conventions of mechanics and usage are followed, but some commonly used words are misspelled in this brief response.



## Anchor Paper 4-A

My favorite way of transportation is skateboarding. Because it's easy to get around. You can go into places where other transportation objects can't go. Like at the skate park, a ordinary park, in your house, in a built-in-ground pool, high way, side walk, naber hood and on school campruse. But the safe place is the skate park and the side walk. Like I just said my favorite transportation is skateboarding.

## **Anchor Paper 4-B**

### **Score Point: 2**

The writing relates to the topic: “My favorite way of transportation is skateboarding. Because it’s easy to get around.” Development of support in this brief response is inadequate, but the student does extend the idea by listing places “other transportation objects can’t go. Like at the skate park, a ordinary park, in your house, in a bilt-in-gound pool, high way, side walk, naber hood and on school campuse.” The student narrows this list by specifying “the safe place” as the skate park and sidewalk. The student attempts to organize by including opening and concluding statements, but the paper lacks a sense of completeness. Word choice is limited, and there is little variation in sentence structure. Many words are spelled incorrectly.

**Anchor Paper 5-A**

OH! These are my 3 reason about what is your favorite form of transportation a car, a bus, and also motorcycles this are my 3 reasons.

First of all my reason is cars. Cars because if you need to get far all you got to do is pay for gas. You can ride in A/C. Also don't have to walk anywhere.

Second of all a bus. Pay 50 cents to ride the bus. Get off and go where you got to go. Also 50 cents to get back home.

Last of all is motorcycles. Pay for gas. It ride pretty fast and does not burn alot of gas. It take you far and get you where you have to go.

Finally the conclusion is the wrap. This what I had to talk about what is the best form of transportation.

## **Anchor Paper 5-B**

### **Score Point: 2**

This response relates to the topic of a favorite form of transportation by naming three: “a car, a bus, and also motorcycles.” Support is inadequate with some repeated ideas, and the student cites only basic reasons for these choices: “Cars because if you need to get far all you got to do is pay for gas”; “Pay 50 cents to ride the bus. Get off and go where you got to go”; “motorcycles. Pay for gas. It ride pretty fast.” There is an attempt to organize as the student equates “my 3 reasons” with three modes of transportation. Errors occur in sentence structure and in the basic conventions of mechanics and usage.

## Anchor Paper 6-A

### Best transportation

I think that the best transportation is a motor scooter. I think a motor scooter is the best transportation because you don't have to have a license to drive it. A motor scooter is fun you can drive it everywhere you need to go. And it goes fast.

A motor scooter is fun you can fold it and take it in places because it is light. A motor holds gas and it goes 30 miles an hour. It comes with screws and <sup>2</sup> pieces so you can fix it.

Young people like my self can't get a license so it is easy for them to go to work. It takes like \$2 of gas and it runs out in two or three days and that's better than some cars. This is my best transportation because it is fun, cool, easy to drive, and you don't need a license that's why it's my best transportation.

## Anchor Paper 6-B

### Score Point: 2

This response focuses on the topic of a favorite form of transportation by selecting “A motor scooter . . . Because you Don’t Have to Have A license to Drive It . . . is Fun, you can Drive it Every were you need to go. And It go Fast.” An attempt at organization is made by including a beginning, middle, and end, but development of support is inadequate. In an attempt to explain why a motor scooter is “fun,” the student lists several ideas but also includes some extraneous ones such as “A motor Hold gas . . .” The student compares gas mileage of a scooter to that of a car but does not develop this idea. Most words are spelled correctly, but errors occur in sentence structure and in the basic conventions of usage and mechanics.

**Anchor Paper 7-A**

My favorite form of transportation is a shopping cart. I like them because they go really fast and are always bumpy so it makes it more fun. When you go you can hang on to a car or something in a parking lot and go really fast. You can always go and have fun for really long periods of time. You can get pushed by someone and they can be on it too so you can both have the same amount of fun. If you are by yourself you can do wheelies. If you find one out of the shopping center you can take it wherever you want and have other people on it too. You can maybe make money by being a taxi to kids and having them pay you for the ride. You can maybe make it your own little go cart and use the wheels for another set of transportation. That is why I pick my favorite transportation to be a shopping cart.

## Anchor Paper 7-B

### Score Point: 3

This response focuses on shopping carts as a favorite form of transportation, “because they go really fast and are always bumpy so it makes it more fun.” The student attempts to organize the response around two main ideas, listing ways to have fun: “hang on to a car . . . get pushed by someone . . . do wheelies,” and “have other people on it . . . maybe make money by being a taxi . . . make it you own little go cart.” Overall the development is erratic with support only briefly extended. There is little variation in sentence structure, but word choice is adequate. Knowledge of the conventions of mechanics and usage is usually demonstrated, and commonly used words are spelled correctly.



## Anchor Paper 8-A

### CAR Pooling

My favorite form of transportation is car pooling with my friends, or riding in a car if you prefer. Three reasons I like carpooling is I can talk with my friends, I can jam to music all I want and I can stop when I need to.

The first reason is I can talk with my friends. We can talk about anything we want. Like school, boys, and other girly things, without getting looked at all funny. Me and my friends love to talk when we are going somewhere.

The second reason is because I can listen to any music I want. So my friends + I can go around all day jamming to music all we want. My friends also love to listen to music.

The third and final reason is because I can stop whenever I need to. When I ride in a car I need to stop for food, drinks

## Anchor Paper 8-B

and for a bathroom. On a subway or bus you can't just stop the bus and use the nearest bathroom, or buy food or drinks.

So now I've told you my favorite form of transportation and my reasons like being able to talk about anything, and being able to stop and listening to all kinds of music. So think about your favorite form and the reasons. Thanks for reading.

## **Anchor Paper 8-C**

### **Score Point: 3**

The writing focuses on the topic of “car pooling with my friends” as a favorite form of transportation and is organized around three reasons for this choice: “I can talk with my friends, I can jam to music all, I want and I can stop when I need to.” Despite opening and closing statements, the response lacks a sense of wholeness. Development of support is erratic with only brief extensions of the ideas. Word choice is adequate: “Like school, boys, and other girly things” and “jamming to music.” There is little variation in sentence structure, but most commonly used words are spelled correctly. Although some errors occur, knowledge of the conventions of mechanics and usage is usually demonstrated.

## Anchor Paper 9-A

My favorite type of transportation would easily be a skateboard. Skateboards are fun to ride, and it's good exercise. Another good thing about skateboards is that when you're waiting for something or taking a break you can do tricks instead of being bored. Sure skateboards don't have radios like cars, but sometimes it is good to listen to your surroundings instead of having music blasting in your ears. But if you're dying to have music just carry a CD player in your pocket.

Skateboarding also became a competitive sport. So when you're finished riding to the competitions you could win some extra cash. Some cash prizes at certain competitions can be up to thousands of dollars and more. So you could buy new skateboards.

I love riding my skateboard with my friends, and meeting new friends while skating. I practically ride my skateboard every day.

Although all these things about skateboards are good there is a down side. Just like all transportations you can get hurt. You could be riding and hit a rock, which if you fall it hurts a lot. So when you skate always wear protective gear.

I like skating a lot and all the things it has helped me do. I have had better exercise, I have learned cool tricks, made new friends, saved money by not buying gas, and not polluted the earth. There are lots of good things about skateboarding and that is why it is my favorite type of transportation.

## **Anchor Paper 9-B**

### **Score Point: 3**

This response focuses on the selection of a skateboard as the favorite form of transportation and includes several reasons: “fun to ride . . . good exercise . . . can do tricks.” Although an organizational plan has been attempted, the response lacks a logical progression of ideas. The student points out a negative aspect: “skateboards don’t have radios,” then briefly discusses the idea of skateboarding as a “competitive sport” and mentions “I love riding my skateboard with my friends” before returning to a negative factor, “you can get hurt.” Development of support is erratic. There is some variation in sentence structure, and the response generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

## Anchor Paper 10-A

If you were to ask me to pick the most favorite type of transportation for me I would say a car. The reason I would pick a car over anything would be because you can fix them up, there are different kinds and you can race them to make money.

There are many ways to fix up a car. You can add bigger engines to go faster, parts to make it look better, paint it to make it stand out from others and performance pieces to give you more horsepower. Think of it, sitting at a traffic light and someone pulls up beside you and revs their engine. The light turns green you release the clutch and you are gone. This could be a reality with a bigger engine. Or you could be at a car show and win 1<sup>st</sup> prize because you have the wildest car there.

If you own a car you know how many there are to pick from. Cars or Trucks, Luxury or Sports, there are also many options that you can pick from such as navigation, hands-free communication, four-wheel drive, and leather seating.

You can take your car and race it so if you win you will have money to make the car even faster and win more money. If you drag race you need to have a fast car with good acceleration and catch the shifts perfectly so you will get to the finish line the fastest.

In conclusion there are many things that you can do

## Anchor Paper 10-B

### Score Point: 4

The response is focused on the selection of a car as a favorite form of transportation and is organized around three reasons: “you can fix them up, there are different kinds and you can race them to make money.” The paper exhibits a sense of wholeness. Support is adequate, but development is uneven, with the first reason having the best development: “many ways to fix up a car . . . bigger engines . . . and performance peices to give you more horsepower.” Support is further enhanced by an example: “Think of it, siting at a traffic light and someone pulls up beside you and revs their engine.” Word choice is specific: “navigation,” “hands-free communication,” “acceleration and catch the shifts perfectly.” There is some variation in sentence structure, and all sentences are complete. The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

## Anchor Paper 11-A

My favorite form of transportation. Hmm, I would probably say a car. Not because their sporty, but because of many things. I would pick the car because it helps me get to places I want to go, I feel comfortable, and I get to see new things by it helping me travel. I'll explain to you why the car is my favorite transportation.

First when I'm in a car I feel like I can go wherever I want to. Which is true and this is why it is my favorite form of transportation. Say if I want to go to the arcade at the mall, bam I'm there in under half an hour. I could go on forever but I won't. Say I want to go to my dad's house, well there I am because of the car. This is only number one, so lets move on.

Second when I'm in a car I feel relaxed. I feel like I'm the only one on the road. The cars interior no matter what kind is still comfortable which is why it is my favorite of transportation. When you sit down, lay your head back it almost feels like your in your own bed. You feel like your laying on a cloud and you never wake up. Well lets move on shall we.

Last is that I can venture to new places and gaze at stuff I've never seen before. For example I've never been out of Florida. Say I want to go to Georgia well there I am. I can now see stuff I may have never seen for instance like Georgia. To tell you the truth the place I want to go the most is New York City. With a car I can travel there and see the spectacular place called New York. This car is the reason for all of this now you know why I like a car.

In conclusion the car is a very handy way of getting around. This car helps me get to places I want to go, makes me feel comfortable, and it helps me travel and see stuff I've



## Anchor Paper 11-B

never seen before. I hope you know why a car is my  
favorite for of transportation.

## **Anchor Paper 11-C**

### **Score Point: 4**

The writing focuses on the car as the favorite form of transportation, because “it helps me get to places I want to go, I feel comfortable, and I get to see new things.” The paper exhibits a sense of wholeness and an organizational pattern is apparent, as the student explains each of these reasons and concludes with the idea of the car as “a very handy way of getting around.” Development of support is adequate and contains some specificity: “go to the arcade at the mall,” “feel like I’m the only one on the road,” “almost feels like your in your own bed,” “Georgia,” and “New York City.” There is some variation in sentence structure, and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

## Anchor Paper 12-A

Beep! Beep! Watch it buddy! There are many forms of transportation, like a car or a skateboard or a subway car. What I like the most is a bus. You can meet new people. There would be less air pollution. Its not that expensive.

What happens when you are in a big crowd with a bunch of people you don't know? I'll tell you what happens. You start to talk to the other people. Then sometimes you might know the same people or grew up in the same neighborhood. You might even find your special someone. Let me remind you are still on a bus.

You will not only meet new people, you will be saving the environment. If you take a bus that would mean one less car on the road, which would mean less exhaust on the road. This would save our ozone layer from depleting completely. Right now there is a hole in the ozone layer above Antarctica. If the hole gets any bigger the sun's harmful rays will hurt living things. That is why you should take a bus.

If more people took buses the streets would be less crowded. If the streets were less crowded then you would be able to get where you are going faster. Lets face it, its not expensive to ride a bus. With today's gas prices its less expensive to ride a bus than drive a car. The beauty of it all is you don't have to drive. I know some people hate to drive. Instead of driving you can let the bus driver drive for you.

All in all my favorite form of transportation is a bus. You can meet new people on a bus, it will help the environment, and most important it is inexpensive. These are the main reasons why I like a bus form of

## Anchor Paper 12-B

transportation

## **Anchor Paper 12-C**

### **Score Point: 4**

The response focuses on a bus as a favorite form of transportation and is organized around the reasons for this selection: “You can meet new people . . . would be less air pollution . . . not that expensive.” Organization and a sense of wholeness are enhanced by excellent transitions: “You will not only meet new people, you will be saving the enviornment . . . That is why you should take a bus. If more people took buses . . .” Development of support is adequate, as is word choice: “ozone layer from depleating completly,” “the beauty of it all” and “let the bus driver drive for you.” Sentences are complete with some variation in structure. Conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling are generally followed.

**Anchor Paper 13-A**

I pedal my feet as fast as I can hoping to reach school on time. I pedal even harder as I go through an alley so I am not late. Just one block to go and I am safe. I pedal harder and harder and I finally reach the bike post. And there is the bell. My favorite form of transportation has to be the bike because if you are running late you can take short cuts, you are not prohibited to one direct path, and riding a bike gives you so much more than just transportation.

To start, my favorite form of transportation is the bike because if you are running late, you can take short cuts. Unlike skateboards and roller blades, you can go most everywhere on a bike. Just imagine, you are late to your best friend's party. She lives three streets down and your parents car is broken down. You jump on your bike and arrive within 10 minutes. You are fashionably late and just in time for cake and ice-cream!

Also, I prefer bikes because you are not prohibited to one direct path. Think back to the good old days. Riding down the street on your bike, you come across a path that leads directly to a pond and patches of wildflowers. You have time to spare so you go down the path. You have a wonderful time and it becomes one of your favorite spots. If you were on a bus, just think of what you

**Anchor Paper 13-B**

would have missed.

Last but not least, riding bikes give you so much more than just transportation. Riding bikes give you so many different things to do. Imagine riding down the sidewalk with cars going past you polluting the air. Your bike doesn't do that. You realize by just riding a bike you can also lose weight. You get multiple outcomes from just one activity!

So as you can see, my favorite form of transportation is the bike because you can take short cuts, you are not prohibited to one direct path, and riding a bike gives you so much more than just transportation. Think about it.

## Anchor Paper 13-C

### Score Point: 5

The writer focuses on a bike as a favorite form of transportation and opens with a scenario of the student rushing to school on a bike. The response is organized around three reasons for selecting this mode of transportation: “if you are running late you can take shortcuts, you are not prohibited to one direct path, and riding a bike gives you so much more than just transportation.” Development of support is ample as the student cites specific examples for each reason: “Just imagine, you are late to your best friends party”; “Think back . . . you come across a path that leads directly to a pond”; and “Imagine riding down the sidewalk.” The response conveys a sense of wholeness and exhibits a mature command of language: “patches of wildflowers,” “your favorite spots,” and “multiple outcomes.” The writing includes varied sentence structure, and the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling are followed.



## Anchor Paper 14-A

I like to get where I'm going to fast. Sometimes I walk to look at the trees and surrounding area. If I don't know about a location I'm in, then I walk. But since I usually know where I am, I usually ride my bike.

I usually ride my bike because it's healthy. It works out your legs, lungs, and heart. Since I take Karate lessons, I must always be in shape. And since I favor <sup>speed</sup> more than power, I start to pedal slow. I then start to gradually build up speed. Since my leg muscles get stronger, I am able to move faster. That's good for me because I favor speed. So there's no reason for me to walk if it doesn't help my speed like riding a bike. I also get to my destinations faster.

I have mild asthma. So I tire quickly. It's important that I have better lungs. My parents smoke, so that doesn't really help. If I have better lungs, I can ride my bike longer and build up my leg muscles even more. Therefore, I will get even faster than I am now. It will also help me at school in P.E.

Now that I've almost gone off topic, riding my bike is my favorite mode of transportation because I gain something from it. My favorite attribute, speed. It also makes lungs and heart stronger. I imagine this. You're in a Karate class exercising. You have to do about 45 push-ups and sit-ups. As you get to your 30<sup>th</sup> sit-up, everyone else starts their push-ups. Not fast enough. After you finally finish, you must practice kicks. As your teacher says front, everyone does a front kick. You finish your 1<sup>st</sup> kick just as everyone else gets ready for the next one. Not a lot of speed there either. Riding in cars or buses doesn't make you more healthy. It saves a lot of time, but no increase in your physical prowess. If you had walked

## Anchor Paper 14-B

or ridden your bike, maybe there would be some increase. That is why I ride my bike. It gets me to my destination faster than walking, and I am enabled to increase my overall physical speed.

## Anchor Paper 14-C

### Score Point: 5

The writing focuses on the bike as a mode of transportation that enhances both speed and health: “I like to get where I’m going to fast . . . Sometimes I walk to look at the trees and surrounding area . . . I usually ride my bike.” The organizational pattern provides for a progression of the related ideas of speed, karate and health: “I favor speed . . . Since my leg muscles get stronger, I am able to move faster . . . If I have better lungs, I can ride my bike longer . . . will get even faster . . . My favorite attribute, speed.” Overall, the support is ample, especially for the example of karate: “Your in a Karate class excersising. You have to do about 45 push-ups and sit-ups . . . everyone else starts . . . Not fast enough.” The writing demonstrates a mature command of language: “mild asthma” and “physical prowess.” Sentence structure is varied, and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

## Anchor Paper 15-A

"Mom, can you please drive me to [Meghan's] house?" I wailed as my mom rolled over in bed. She does this all the time. She won't take me to my friend's houses because she is sick, or busy, or tired. "How else am I going to get there?" I emphatically pleaded trying to rouse her from her sick slumber. "Ride your bike" my mother mumble. Why, that was brilliant! My mom could sleep and I could still get to [Meg's] house. I trotted to the garage and hauled my bike into the driveway. As I mounted and sped off I started contemplating why biking is my favorite way to get where I want to go.

First of all it is great exercise unlike a car or bus. After you complete a long bike ride you feel rejuvenated. If you work hard enough your muscles might be tender the next day. That feels uplifting and you feel healthier.

When you riding a bike it gives you time to ponder and quest for ideas and theories. You are in your own little world just riding along and admiring the scenery. You don't have to get dressed up or anything. The bike doesn't care what you look like. You have the freedom to be yourself and get away from all the drama in your life.

Most importantly a bike is one of the few forms of transportation that kids and

**Anchor Paper 15-B**

young teens can operate. For a car you have to pass tests and be over the age of sixteen to drive it. For a plane you have to attend school to learn how to fly it. For a bike you don't have to do anything. You just get on it and go. A bike gets you where you want to go without you having to bother someone to take you. On a bike you don't have the limitations you do in a car. If you want to cut through someone's backyard you can on the other hand if you tried doing that with a car I think they might get a bit upset.

When I arrived at my destination, [Meghan's] house, I began to tell her all the cool things about a bike. She just cut me off and told me she knew already because I had told her when I rode my bike over last week.

## Anchor Paper 15-C

### Score Point: 5

This writing focuses on the positive use of a bike for transportation and discusses three reasons: “great exercise . . . gives you time to ponder and question ideas and theoreys . . . one of the few forms of transportation that kids and young teens can operate.” The writer uses dialogue to introduce the problem: “Mom, can you please drive me to [Meghan’s] house?” The response to this dialogue logically progresses to the conclusion: “When I arrived at my destination, [Meghan’s] house, I began to tell her all the cool things about a bike.” Development of support is ample, and word choice is mature and precise: “emphatically pleaded . . . feel rejuvenated . . . the freedom to be yourself and get away from all the drama in your life,” and “don’t have the limitations you do in a car.” Sentence structure is varied, and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

**Anchor Paper 16-A**

My favorite form of transportation is probably an airplane. The first reason I like airplanes is because of the funny sensation you feel during take off. Another reason I like airplanes is because of how fast airplanes get you to where you want to go. The last reason I like airplanes is because of the good service you receive from the flight attendants. Now I will support these reasons with details from my past experiences.

The first reason I like airplanes is because of the tickling sensation you feel in your stomach during take off. When my brothers and I go on an airplane, during take off we are always laughing. No matter how hard we try, we just can't help it because it feels so funny. I think the reason your stomach feels this way is because you are not used to moving so fast and accelerating so quickly. During take off, airplanes go about 150 miles per hour. Cars only average about 60 miles per hour. Nevertheless, the feeling is sensational and I always look forward to it.

Another reason I like airplanes is because of how quickly they get you to your destination. I remember when I rode in an airplane to Kansas (I have family there) it only took us an hour and a half to get there. It normally takes us seven hours to get to Kansas by

**Anchor Paper 16-B**

car. That means an airplane is almost five times faster than a car. In the air, I think airplanes go somewhere around three hundred and fifty miles per hour. I always look forward to seeing my family in Kansas, and an airplane is so quick that it gets me there just in time.

The last reason I enjoy riding on an airplane is because of the good service you receive during the flight. The flight attendants are always smiling and trying their best to keep the passengers happy. They are very good at their job because I am always happy on an airplane. Flight attendants can get you pillows when you are tired, drinks when you are thirsty, and even a snack when you are hungry. A couple of times I have had some very pleasant conversations with a flight attendant. The reason they do their job so well is because of how much they enjoy it.

There you have it. The three reasons I like airplanes. The sensational feeling during take-off, how fast it gets you to your destination, and the wonderful service during the flight. I always look forward to riding in an airplane, and now you know the reasons why.



## Anchor Paper 16-C

### Score Point: 6

The writing focuses on an airplane as a favorite form of transportation and develops substantial support by describing three reasons: “the funny sensation you feel during take off . . . how fast airplanes get you to where you want to go . . . the good service you receive from the flight attendants.” The writing conveys a sense of wholeness, as ideas progress logically with relevant and specific support: “the tickling sensation you feel in your stomach . . . When my brothers and I go on an airplane, during take off we are always laughing . . . it feels so funny . . . you are not used to moving so fast and accelerating so quickly.” The writing demonstrates a mature command of language: “an airplane is so quick that it gets me there just in time” and “pleasant conversations.” The paper demonstrates an involvement with the subject and clarity in presentation of ideas. Few convention errors occur in mechanics, usage, and punctuation.

## Anchor Paper 17-A

### Travelling Through Memories

My favorite form of transportation is a car. I love to travel and have been to many places, and I feel that a car is the best way of doing so.

When I travel in a car, either for a long or short time, I feel like there is a special bond between me and my family. In our very busy lives there isn't a lot of time to sit down together and discuss our thoughts. When we are travelling, however, it is the perfect time to talk to our loved ones. Usually our journeys are so long that we talk about every single topic we can think of, therefore we learn more about our family and ourselves.

Travelling in a car is also very peaceful. I just love sleeping there. It's cosy, and when I wake up I see the rest of my family smiling, or sleeping, happily. That is something you definitely couldn't do on a bus or a subway. Those vehicles are packed with people you don't know, total strangers. They also aren't as comfortable. For example, you wouldn't be able to fall asleep on a bus or a subway, facing the dangers of missing the next stop.

But most importantly, cars contain your

**Anchor Paper 17-B**

memories. Memories, not only of the beautiful places you visited, but of your wonderful family and of <sup>numerous</sup> long and tiring journeys. For example, my most vivid memories are of the time I traveled from Szeged, Hungary to Paris, France by a car. We stopped in Neulengbach, Austria. The journey from there to Paris took 12 long hours. I remember, that only my mother was with me and my sisters, and she had to drive the whole way. At one point she was so tired, that she pulled into a Resting Area, ordered us out of the car and fell asleep at once! That is something I will definitely remember for a long time. If we would have taken a plane, for instance, these things would never have happened, nor would they have been so memorable.

This is why I think cars are the best ways of traveling, no matter where or when. They are comfortable, peaceful, they connect the whole family, and most importantly they help us remember our memories for ever.

## Anchor Paper 17-C

### Score Point: 6

This response focuses on the student's preference of a car as a favorite form of transportation. "I love to travel and have been to many places, and I feel that a car is the best way of doing so." The response reflects insight into the writing situation. Ideas progress logically: "When I travel in a car . . . Traveling in a car is also very peaceful . . . But most importantly, cars contain your memories." Support is substantially developed: "For example, my most vivid memories are of the time I traveled from Szeged, Hungary to Paris, France by a car." The response has a sense of wholeness and demonstrates a mature command of language: "a special bond between me and my family . . . perfect time to talk . . . facing the dangers of missing the next stop," and "connect the whole family." Sentence structure is varied, and the paper follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

## Anchor Paper 18-A

Right now I am grounded, which means no TV, no socializing on computer or hanging out with friends, my parents thought they did a good job punishing me but apparently not good enough, because I still take the school bus in the morning and afternoon, meaning I still hang out with my neighborhood friends at the bus stop and on the bus.

Its a great feeling going to busstop every morning and knowing that you have ~~a~~ friends there you can hangout with, and on your ride back home, you can seat with your friends and talk about school, listen to music, or anything else fun.

Well, hanging out with friends isn't the only reason I like riding the bus, there are other reasons like I would really dislike the hot to have to ride my bike, Especially here in Florida where a normal day of summer is around 95°F. And just the other day, poor [Bill] was suspended off the bus for being disruptive, and let me tell you, he sure learned his lesson for which, he hated coming to school all sweaty everyday, due to riding in such humidity and once he popped a tire halfway to school, so he walked with his bike for 15 minutes until he could find a grocery store to use their phone and call home so his mom could pick him up.

Everyday after school, my friend [Troy] has to wait in the crowded line and watch out for his moms car desperately so he can get in and sometimes he has to wait for 20 minutes, hungry, hot and desperate for his mom to come by and pick him up. Me in the other hand, knows

## Anchor Paper 18-B

exactly where my bus is, and it's just a matter of minutes before I am at my bus, sheltered from the intense heat and goofing around in a polite manner with my friends. Sometimes in our bus we will all make a plan to start singing holiday song or some other song just to have some fun, and on days even our bus driver will join the fun too. My bus is like a party everyday and I wouldn't give it up for any car ride or any other transportation.

Overall, the point I am trying to make is that a free bus ride may be the best service the public schools have provided for us, which just doesn't help the students but also helps the parents who may be at work, too busy to pick up their children or kids who live too far and a bike ride is next thing to impossible. I always have and will appreciate my bus ride because it always gets me home safe, eliminates my own ride, especially under the intense heat we face in Florida. It just makes me think how in U.S. kids are so lucky to get free bus rides whereas in other countries some kids will walk 2 miles to get to school to get an education and to make something of themselves.

## Anchor Paper 18-C

### Score Point: 6

This response is focused on the topic of the school bus being a favorite form of transportation. The writing is purposeful and reflects insight into the writing situation. The student begins by establishing the importance of the school bus as a center for social activity and as a convenience: “Right now I am grounded, which means no TV, no socializing on computer or hanging out with friends.” The organizational pattern provides a logical progression of ideas, and the support is substantial and illustrative as the student compares his own situation with others’: “around 95. And Just the other day, poor [Bill] was suspended off the bus for being disruptive . . . coming to school all sweaty” and “My friend [Troy] has to wait in the crowded line and watch out for his moms car . . . wait for 20 minutes, hungry, hot and desparate . . . [I know] exactly where my bus is . . . My bus is like a party everyday.” The writing demonstrates a mature command of language with precise word choice: “normal day of summer,” “humidity,” “sheltered from the intense heat,” and “the best service the public schools have provided.” Sentence structure is varied, and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.