

# B.E.S.T. Writing Anchor Sets

## Spring 2025 – Grade 9



THE B.E.S.T. STANDARDS

*Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking*

The Florida Department of Education is publishing the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Writing scoring anchors and annotations in support of its efforts to maintain transparency of the scoring process for Florida's statewide, standardized Writing assessments. These anchors can be used as a resource for Florida educators, schools, and districts regarding the scoring of student responses on the B.E.S.T. Writing assessments.

Each spring, students in grades 4–10 are administered a set of source texts and a writing prompt based on those sources. Students respond to one of two possible modes – expository or argumentative – and must draw on reading and writing skills while integrating information from the source materials in order to develop and draft a typed, cohesive essay response.

Anchor sets are used as a primary reference for expert scorers as they score student responses to prompts and sources provided during the spring B.E.S.T. Writing administration. Essays selected for the anchor demonstrate a range of skill levels within each scorepoint on the B.E.S.T. Writing rubric. A bulleted annotation follows each response to explain the prominent characteristics of the response in each domain – *Purpose and Structure*, *Development*, and *Language* – described in the rubric. As scorers read student responses, they use the anchor to help determine which scorepoint best fits a response holistically.

As with all assessment content, papers selected for the anchor set are reviewed by multiple committees of Florida educators and include members of the *Just Read, Florida!* office and State Regional Literacy Directors (SRLDs). After these meetings, the state's scoring subcontractor, Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), and the Department's English Language Arts (ELA) content teams assemble final materials for scorers.

All responses are scored holistically; however, responses at any grade level that do not include source citation cannot earn a score higher than 2 in the *Development* domain.

For more information about the B.E.S.T. Writing assessments, visit <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/>. For questions about this document, please contact [Assessment@fldoe.org](mailto:Assessment@fldoe.org).

## Florida Anchor Key

Grade 9	Arg			Item # 37764	Electric Scooters
Paper	P/S	D	L	Name	Lithocode
A-1	1	1	1	Bird and Lime	770002072265
A-2	1	1	1	So Yea	770004782854
A-3	1	1	1	Less Dangerios	770002104375
A-4	2	2	2	Biggest Problem	770002050261
A-5	2	2	2	There Greate	770004658786
A-6	2	2	2	Sweaty Walking	770005426790
A-7	2	2	2	Not as Tidy	770004666740
A-8	2	2	2	Futuer	770002032540
A-9	3	3	3	Bizarre New Way	770002037270
A-10	3	3	3	Looking Fresh	770005444487
A-11	3	3	3	Infested With Scooters	770005398445
A-12	3	3	3	Sidewalk Dwellers	770002037871
A-13	3	3	3	Dare Devils	770005397644
A-14	4	4	4	Cyberpunk Reality	770005335442
A-15	4	4	4	Horrible Scourge	770002110110
A-16	4	4	4	Plain and Simple	770004664634

## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

## Bird and Lime

1/1/1



Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities. Use information from the sources in your essay.

e-scooters are not the best way of transportation, honestly bird and lime should use e-bikes instead because e-bikes are easier to use and all you have to do is peddle to get the speed you want and then the e part of it keeps it speed until you brake. ebikes are way easier to use unlike the scooters you have to push and hold down the throttle. trust me I know from experience! so if you are reading this bird and lime switch to e-bikes.

for the teachers I summerize it all into one paragraph.

RF-2

SA A-2

**1 – Purpose/Structure** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- A position is stated in this brief response that the e-scooter industry should switch to e-bikes (*e-scooters are not the best way of transportation*).
- Little discernible organizational structure is present. A slight opening identifies the position, and a closing comment suggests scooter companies switch to e-bikes with a few ideas why e-bikes would be superior to scooters provided (*easier to use*).
- The only transition is "so," leading to a suggestion that companies switch to e-bikes.
- The introduction and conclusion are both lacking.
- Brevity is also a factor as there is insufficient writing to demonstrate knowledge of purpose, structure, or task.

**1 – Development** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- A lack of understanding of the topic and development is demonstrated.
- Elaboration consists of describing a distinction between how e-bikes and e-scooters operate.
- No evidence is provided from the source materials.
- No citation is present. Had there been citation, the Development score would not have changed.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims are not satisfied. No counterclaim is provided.
- Brevity is also a factor as there is insufficient writing to demonstrate knowledge of elaboration, topic, or sources.

**1 – Language** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- Vocabulary and word choice are vague and unclear (*the e part of it keeps it speed*).
- Sentence structure is simplistic and confusing. Many types of sentence formation problems are present (comma splices and run-togethers).
- A density and variety of severe errors are present in usage (*it speed*), punctuation (commas after introductory elements), spelling (*easier; expierence*), and capitalization (*I*; beginning sentences; and proper names). These errors demonstrate a lack of command of standard English conventions. Errors rise to a level that impacts understanding meaning.
- Tone and voice are inappropriate (*trust me I know from expierence!*).
- Brevity with errors demonstrates a lack of command of language skills.

So Yea

1/1/1

Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

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Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

Do i think eletric scooters should be allowed in cities no i do not think they should be allowed at least in city on the sidewalks with how many accidents there are people running into people and these eletric scooters are pretty fast.

As it states in source 2 paragraph 18 "travis vanderzand said cheif executive of bird scooter rides said we are not sure what to expect other scooter companies like bird,lime and other...tell their industry to stoy off the riding paths like the sidewalk they need to ride on the bike lane.

Not all of the people that ride these eletric scooter's and riders is bad just like it talks about in source 1 in all paragraphs it is good for going somewhere that is really close like train station and work in a city.

so yea not all the scooter companies are bad and people think they are because people ride on the sidewalk and give them a bad reputation.

RF-29

**1 – Purpose/Structure** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- An ambiguous position is stated (*no I do not think they [electric scooters] should be allowed at least in city on the sidewalks with how many accidents*). It is unclear whether opposition is to all scooters or just to their use on sidewalks. The position changes in the conclusion to not all scooter companies are bad and they just have a bad reputation.
- Little discernible organizational structure is present. Although not clear, ideas seem to swirl around the notions that scooters are too fast to be ridden where they currently are (*sidewalk*) and that scooters do have some benefits (*good for going somewhere that is really close*). The listed benefits are dropped in without connection.
- Few transitional elements are present (*so yea*).
- The introduction and conclusion are lacking. The introduction repeats the prompt as a question (*Do I think electric scooters should be allowed in cities*) and takes an initial position (*no*) with what appears to be a preview of ideas to be addressed (accidents on sidewalks and speed). The conclusion diverts to scooter companies’ reputation and makes no attempt to integrate these listed cons and pros.
- Brevity is also a factor as there is insufficient writing to demonstrate knowledge of purpose, structure, or task.

**1 – Development** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- A lack of understanding of the topic and development is demonstrated.
- Elaboration consists of confusing ideas. A few ideas are listed on each side (*people running into people* and that the scooters are *fast*). Information from the source that is provided relates to industry representatives suggesting users stay off sidewalks (*...tell their industry to stoy off the riding paths*). No extension in the form of explanation or reconciliation of these ideas is provided.
- Evidence from sources is vague and confusing.
- Although there is an appropriate citation (*source 2*), the Development score is evaluated holistically and is not improved in this case by the presence of a citation.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are not met. While ideas supporting both sides are presented, the ambiguity of position makes identifying a counterclaim difficult.
- Brevity is also a factor as there is insufficient writing to demonstrate knowledge of elaboration, topic, or sources.

**1 – Language** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- Vocabulary and word choice is vague and unclear (*so yea*).
- Sentence structure is simplistic and confusing. Multiple sentence errors are present (run-togethers).
- A density and variety of severe errors are present in usage (missing words, agreement (*is* for *are*), capitalization (*i* for *I*; beginning sentences; proper names), spelling (*eltric*; *stoy*), and punctuation (missing commas; superfluous apostrophe) obscuring meaning and demonstrating a lack of command of standard English conventions.
- Brevity with errors demonstrates a lack of command of language skills.
- Tone and voice are inappropriate (*so yea*).

## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

## Less Dangerous

1/1/1



Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities. Use information from the sources in your essay.

Have you ever wonder what life would be like if there was less cars on the streets? Well some cities are doing just that for an example San Francisco. I think that's a amazing idea It would help so much people.

According to passage one it is so much less noising and less cars on the street when they are big events. Also cuts down on pollution and litter. I think it would benefit a lot of people who don't have cars.

Also would make it where more places to be opened which more jobs for the ones who can't get a job for the reason that they don't own a car. According to passage three it is healthier for the globe or in other case it's better in long time terms. The roads won't be crowded and make a hassle to get to places.

In conclusion scooters is the best way to travel for short distance because it's less dangerous and people won't have to be in a road block so at the end of the day it's a win win for everyone.

RF-11

SA A-2

**1 – Purpose/Structure** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- A position is provided but insufficiently sustained within the task (*I think that’s a amazing idea [fewer cars on the street because of scooter availability]*).
- Organizational structure is inconsistent with limited advancement of ideas. Ideas are listed with some continuity requiring the reader to make the connections (fewer cars on the road results in less noise, pollution, and litter; scooters can benefit those without cars).
- Transitional strategies are repetitive with minimal variety (*Well; According to passage; Also; In conclusion*).
- An introduction and conclusion are present but lacking clarity. The introduction suggests scooters reduced traffic on the roads like in San Francisco would be *amazing* but doesn’t indicate how they are doing it (scooters). The conclusion is repetitive (*less dangerous* and *no road block*).
- Brevity is also a factor as there is insufficient writing to demonstrate knowledge of purpose, structure, or task.

**1 – Development** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- A lack of understanding of the topic and development is demonstrated.
- Elaboration is limited to lists with moments of continuity of thought (advantages for those that don’t have cars and fewer cars reduces “*hassal*”). How scooter availability results in the listed claims (noise, litter, pollution and traffic congestion) is unexplained.
- Little source-derived evidence is provided.
- Although there is an appropriate citation, the Development score is evaluated holistically and is not improved in this case by the presence of a citation.
- No counterclaim is provided.
- Brevity is also a factor as there is insufficient writing to demonstrate knowledge of elaboration, topic, or sources.

**1 – Language** – Below grade-level performance demonstrated

- Vocabulary and word choice are vague and unclear.
- Sentence structure is simplistic. There is a sentence formation error even in the few sentences attempted.
- A density and variety of severe errors are present in usage (*wounder* for *wondered*; *less* for *fewer*; *a* for *an*; *much* for *more*; missing words; *is* for *are*), punctuation (missing commas after introductory elements; contraction apostrophes), spelling (*exsampele*; *benifit*; *alot*; *plases*; *oped*; *healthier*; *hassal*), and sentence formation demonstrate a lack of command of conventions.
- Tone and voice do little to enhance the overall Language score.



## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

## Biggest Problem

2/2/2



Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities. Use information from the sources in your essay.

Traffic is one of the biggest problems in the world at the moment. It causes collisions and people being late. Scooters are a form of transportation that could reduce lateness and help with environmental reasons. The society we live in today is always in a rush, and scooters could be what is needed.

Scooters are everywhere now. They truly are a new modern type of transportation that can change the world. In source 1 it states that "The resulting improvements in traffic go hand in hand with decreases in different types of air pollution" This proves that it will drastically have a change with people and their lives. Also, source 2 claims that "...scooters that can travel up to 15 miles an hour--- starting at just 1 a ride." Scooters are also very inexpensive alternative. You don't have to pay for gas and it can cost only 1 dollar to get you to where you need to go.

Some people disagree with the ideas of scooters though. They believe that scooters will cause more collisions and do more bad than good. In source 3 it states "Many communities lack appropriate means of regulating them." Some communities have no laws for scooters. The scooters can be a hazard without the correct rules and regulations to suit them.

Scooters are the newest and most efficient way of transportation. There may be some hesitation at this time, but when people realize the pros of scooters they'll finally understand.

RF-6

SA A-3

**2 – Purpose/Structure** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- A position is provided but insufficiently sustained within the task (*scooters could be what is needed*).
- Organizational structure is inconsistent with limited advancement of ideas. Ideas are chunked in a pro/con fashion. Scooter advantages are addressed (environmental and speed) followed by a list of concerns some have with scooters. Economic concerns are also addressed despite not being previewed in the opening.
- Transitional strategies attempt to connect ideas but are repetitive and lacking (*This proves that; Also; Some people disagree*).
- An introduction and conclusion are present but ineffective. The introduction merely notes a concern about traffic and lists a few ideas to be addressed, and the conclusion briefly indicates some hesitation to scooter use but those that are hesitant will come around once informed.

**2 – Development** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Development demonstrates partial and incomplete understanding of the topic.
- Ineffective elaborative techniques are demonstrated. Support is limited to source quotation or summary, and commentary is unexplained (*This proves that it will drastically have a change with people and there lives*). Broad claims are made (*change the world, drastically..change...there lives*) with no explanation of how or why they are true. The extent of the traffic or air pollution problems that will be resolved by scooters is also not explained.
- Source-derived evidence from sources one and three is partially integrated, providing uneven support for the position.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are not met. Two concerns with scooters are acknowledged (insufficient regulation and collisions) but are not rebutted.
- Although appropriate citation is present (*In source 1*), the Development score is evaluated holistically and is not impacted by it.

**2 – Language** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Vocabulary and word choice are basic, demonstrating partial command of the expression of ideas.
- Sentence structure is partially controlled and simplistic, demonstrating a lack of grade-appropriate language facility.
- Although there are errors present in usage (*there* for *their*), punctuation (*dont*), spelling (*dollar; ideads; belive; efficant*) overall grade-appropriate command of conventions is demonstrated.
- Tone and voice do little to enhance or detract from the overall Language score.

## There Greate

2/2/2

## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

Should eletric scooter rentals be allowed in cities? I think they should keep eletric scooter rentals in the cities. They are very affordable and convenient for traviling place to place while improving traffic, and they have noumbers of advantages for men and women.

Firstly, have you ever wanted or even needed to go somewhere and didnt have enough money for a bus or an uber or even didnt want to spend that much money on one? In the text, it states "On one hand, scooters are convenient and very affordable options for tavel that keep cars off the road, thus improving traffic. Why sit in a car stuck in traffic when you could zip to your next location with ease?" This explains that scooters are convenient and affordable while being able to help the environment.

Secoundly, scooters provides numbers of advantiges to men and women when they are riding the e-scooter. In the text, it states "Shared e-scooters provide a number of advantages over shared e-bikes. The ider can stand up which, for office workers, means no wrinkling of cloths. The posture is also easier for women wearing skirts and dresses." This shows that the e-scooters are good not only for trasprt but also posture and not rincaling your clothing.

Some people might think that e-scooters should not be alloud in the scities because people are saying that these companies take advantage of the laws instead of working with the local government. I do not think this is true because the companies are trying to help the comunity and obaying the laws as well.

This is why i think we should have e-scooters in the scites. there greate to use, affordable and help the environment, they also are greaght for posture and helps with women that dress with skirts or dresses.

RF-106

**2 – Purpose/Structure** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- A position is identified in the opening (*I think they should keep eletric scooter rentals in the cities*).
- The organizational structure is inconsistent. A two-pronged organizational approach is identified in the opening (affordable and convenient method of improving traffic and a general “advantages for men and women,” which relates to reducing wrinkled clothing and improving posture).
- Transitions attempt to connect ideas but lack purpose and variety. There is some sentence-to-sentence continuity of thought, and topic sentences are used to identify each chunk, but transitions are limited to basic external (*Firstly; Secoundly*) and lack purpose (*This explains that; This shows that*).
- An introduction and conclusion are present but are ineffective as they merely rephrase the prompt, give an outline of what is addressed, and repeat the same in the conclusion.

**2 – Development** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Development demonstrates partial and incomplete understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration attempts to develop the argument but relies heavily on sources without sufficient extension. The first two body paragraphs contain a relevant piece of text, but there is insufficient original development of these ideas. General claims are made without explanation of the how or why. Why are scooters less expensive than a bus or Uber? How does increased scooter usage improve traffic and the environment? How is it more convenient? Analysis doesn’t go far enough to be considered adequate at grade level.
- Evidence is related to the topic but is only partially integrated.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are not met. While one counterclaim is acknowledged (*Some people might think that e-scooters should not be alloud in cities because...these companies take advantage of the laws instead of working with local government*), it is weakly rebutted (*I do not think this is true because the companies are trying to help the cumunity and obaying the laws as well*).
- Insufficient citation is used. Reference to “the text” alone does not sufficiently identify the source. Because there is not at least one correct citation, this response cannot receive a score greater than a 2 in Development. Even if there had been sufficient citation, other Development considerations do not warrant a higher Development score.

**2 – Language** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Vocabulary and word choice are imprecise and basic, demonstrating partial command of expression of ideas (*good; great*).
- Sentence structure is somewhat simplistic. Most of the less simplistic sentences are closely paraphrased from the source material. Sentence formation errors are also present (comma splice).
- A partial command of standard English conventions is demonstrated. Inconsistent use of correct grammar (*provides* for provide; *there* for their, *helps* for help), punctuation (missing commas preceding quoted material), capitalization (*i* for I and beginning sentences), and quite a few spelling (*eletic; traviling; noumbers; didnt; Secoundly; advantiges; rincaling; alloud; scities; comunity; obaying; greate*). Convention errors do not often obscure meaning.
- Tone and voice do not elevate the response beyond the score of 2.

**Sweaty Walking****Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG**

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Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

Electric scooters can become a new vehicle for transportation if handled right. With all the evidence and proof there is for the benefits of E-scooters, It's obvious why one would want to have it. The problems this vehicle has, are ones that can be fixed easily. Electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

To begin with, no one wants to deal with traffic or walking when there are other and better ways of traveling. E-scooters are easier and cheaper than bicycles, as stated in source 3, paragraph 33. Everyone wants to get to their location without having to deal with traffic, especially people in cities. Cities are notorious for being extremely frustrating because of traffic. Imagine a way for people to get somewhere that isn't expensive or frustrating.

Next, this is where the Electric scooter rentals come in. Not only do you not have to sweat or walk with this vehicle, it is also ridiculously cheap. In source 2, paragraph 11, it states that some companies have started selling these scooters which can travel up to 15 miles an hour. Not only that, but the cost starts at about \$1. The best part is that anyone can rent these vehicles since they aren't expensive or difficult to find.

Lastly, these E-scooters do have their downsides unfortunately. While these electric scooters have many positives, they also have negatives to them as well. One of these negatives being that it affects the people around you and your environment. In soource 2, paragraph 24, it states the scooters also cause a nuisance for others who don't want to deal with these vehicles being littered on the streets. However, these problems can be fixed with time and effort.

In conclusion, If you want to have one of these electric scooters, then you can, as long as you aren't causing issues with others. Although the e-scooters look like toys for children, it can actually help anyone at any age, especially for those who are looking for ways to get around in a city. Fortunately, the controversy isn't with the scooter itself, but the people using it. This means that as long as you teach someone what not to do with the E-scooter, everyone will be fine.

RF-87

**2 – Purpose/Structure** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- A position is provided but insufficiently sustained within the task (*Electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities*).
- The organizational structure is inconsistent. Ideas are chunked around two ideas (scooters are less expensive and allow users to avoid sweaty walking and traffic).
- Transitional strategies are basic and repetitive. Basic external transitions order paragraphs (*To begin with; Next, Lastly, In conclusion*) and internal transitions attempt to connect some ideas (*Not only that, but; One of these; However; Although; This means that*).
- An introduction and conclusion are present but simplistic. The introduction merely generalizes about scooters being *new* and beneficial, and that problems are an easy fix then states a position. The conclusion is slightly better with the utility contrast to the child’s toy characterization and raises a good point for the first time, that most of the problems associated with scooters are user generated and not with the scooter itself.

**2 – Development** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Development demonstrates partial and incomplete understanding of the topic.
- Ineffective elaborative techniques are demonstrated. Attempts to extend show limited understanding and leave questions about how scooters can resolve the problems identified. The frustration with traffic in cities is characterized, but how scooters solve this is insufficiently explained (*Imagine a way for people to get somewhere that isn’t expensive or frustrating*). The ideas that avoiding sweaty walking and the ease of finding a scooter are not elaborated. Elaboration on cost also goes little beyond source. There is not enough original understanding demonstrated.
- Evidence is partially integrated and related to the topic but at times disconnected from the argument. For example, the relevancy of the speed of the scooters in body paragraph two to the cheapness of the ride is not explained.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are not met. One counterclaim is offered (*affects the people around you and your environment*) but not rebutted with evidence (*these problems can be fixed with time and effort*).
- Although appropriate citation is present (*source 3*), other Development considerations do not warrant a higher Development score.

**2 – Language** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Vocabulary and word choice are basic, demonstrating partial command of the expression of ideas.
- Sentence structure is partially controlled. Limited variety and complexity are demonstrated, particularly in original sentences.
- Overall, adequate command of conventions is demonstrated. Although there are errors present in punctuation (few superfluous commas), spelling (*bycycles; Although*), and capitalization (after external transitions), there is enough demonstrated that is correct.
- Tone and voice do not elevate the response beyond the score of 2.

**Not as Tidy****Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG**

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Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

There are many ways to travel such as driving, bike riding, buses, trains, and even walking. Many people might say that walking is too tiring and takes too long, they also may not want to drive due to traffic, and does not want to take the bus or train because it is not as tidy as they would like. But as the world evolves people are finding new fast and less complicated ways to travel and get around. Now and days the childhood toy scooters are being used for transportation. Some go against scooters and think that it shouldn't be used as a type of transportation, while others may say that scooters are a great addition to add to the transportation options. Electric scooters should be valued and should be allowed in the city.

First of all, e-scooters can solve the last mile problem. "Over the last 12 months, something new has been promoted as the solution to the last mile problem. Shared e-scooters are powered by a rechargeable battery, these are dockless, have a range of 20-60 kilometres per charge and a top speed of 24 kilometres per hour". Many people find it too far to walk to a bus stop or the nearest train and too close to drive which created the last mile problem. E-scooters allows easier transportation rather than walking or wasting gas driving in traffic.

Also, e-scooters is a cheap and reliable way to get around. "Revenue sharing of the US\$1 per scooter per day with host cities for purposes of building and maintaining bike lanes promoting safe riding"(source3). "Scooters are located and paid with apps on phones for 15 cents a minute". This proves how cheap and reliable e-scooters are to the public and should be valued more often. E-scooters can also reduce traffic. "Scooters are convenient and very affordable options for travel that keep cars off the road, thus improving traffic"(source1). This shows how beneficial e-scooters are and how reliable they can be.

While these benefits are very persuasive, the reality of electric scooters has caused many civilians to be angry. Electric scooters has caused many headaches for non-users local governments and various communities. Electric scooters can cause hazards for all involved, there are also no places to store these scooters yet, but sometimes companies leave them on bike racks, angering cyclists. Although electric scooters are successful they cause a lot of problems to non-users and can be problematic to the community.

To sum it all up, electric scooters is a great addition to add to the transportation options although some might say otherwise. Electric scooters is a faster and easier way to travel whether then driving, walking, catching the bus or a train. Electric scooters are cheap and reliable and easily affordable and can help evolve the world we live in. Electric scooters should be valued way more and should be allowed in our cities.

RF-38

**2 – Purpose/Structure** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- A position is identified in the introduction (*Electric scooters should be valued and should be allowed in the city*) but insufficiently sustained within the task.
- Organizational structure is inconsistent, disrupting the advancement of the argument. Ideas are chunked around using scooters to solve the “last mile problem” and how cheap and convenient they are to reduce traffic. The second body paragraph seems like a loose grouping of additional benefits. No connection is drawn between the traffic component and cost or convenience.
- Transitions attempt to connect ideas but lack purpose and variety. Basic external transitions are used (*First of all, Also, To sum it all up*) in the constructive portion of the argument made in the first two body paragraphs. A topic sentence “*While these benefits are very persuasive, the reality...*” introduces the counterclaim). A few basic internal transitions attempt to show a relationship between ideas (*This proves how; This shows how*).
- The introduction and conclusion are ineffective. The introduction attempts to explain the “last mile problem” and why scooters would be superior to walking or driving in some circumstances (*tiring and takes too long...also traffic*). The conclusion merely repeats the points made in the introduction.

**2 – Development** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Development demonstrates partial and incomplete understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration attempts to develop the argument but relies heavily on sources and does not go far enough. Elaboration is limited to defining what the “last mile” problem is and then suggesting scooters are the solution without sufficient explanation (*E-scooters allows easier transportation rather than walking or waisting gas driving in traffic*). Evidence provided of cost savings relates to revenue generation for host cities and not to the user (*\$1 per scooter per day with host cities*). Evidence of less expense is limited to the one quote (*15 cents a minute*) and not extended. Reliability is also claimed but is unsupported.
- Evidence is partially integrated and related to the topic but somewhat disconnected from the argument.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are not met. Multiple counterclaims are listed (angry citizens and governments, hazards, and lack of storage) but not rebutted with evidence (*electric scooters are recoursful*).
- Appropriate citation is provided (*source 3*). Had elaboration demonstrated more complete understanding, this response would have received a higher Development score.

**2 – Language** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Vocabulary and word choice are imprecise and basic, demonstrating partial command of expression of ideas (*go against*). There is also an overreliance on source material for expression.
- Sentence structure is partially controlled and somewhat simplistic.
- Inconsistent use of correct grammar (*does for do; Now and days; allows for allow; is for are; has for have; then for than*), punctuation (missing contraction apostrophes), and spelling (*travle; maintainig; benefitial; eletric, suvilians; recoursful; comunity; trasportation; wheather*) demonstrate partial command of standard English conventions.
- Tone and voice do not elevate the response beyond the score of 2.



## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

## Futuer

2/2/2



Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities. Use information from the sources in your essay.

These days, everybody is looking for a solution to air pollution and cutting down local traffic, as well as becoming more connected to the environment. A new answer may have appeared in ways that nobody expected. Electric scooters are becoming more and more popular and may just be the next step to moving forward, seeing as they are both more convenient and promote a better lifestyle.

Firstly, electric scooters are a easy way to start the long process of removing traffic. In the article "Scooting around Town" paragraph three, it states "...scooters are convenient and very affordable options for travel that keep cars off the road, thus improving traffic." A scooter allows people to move more freely and have more space so that people are not so crowded. Scooters are also a good price, adding to the benefits that scooters bring. The article "Can e-scooters solve the 'last mile' problem? They'll need to avoid the fate of the dockless bikes" paragraph thirty three explains, "Scooters are also easier than bicycles to manoeuvre along narrow paths.." Scooters have a better mobility about them making it easier for people to get around. This pleases a lot of people and adds to the appeal.

Additionally, scooters also help people reconnect with their environment. Paragraph three of the article "Scooting around Town" writes, "Not only are scooter a cleaner transportation option, they also promote an active lifestyle and get people back outside to experience nature." To be able to enjoy nature in such a pure way really makes people feel so much more connected with everything going on without having to worry about it. To be able to enjoy that nature however, it needs to be preserved, which is why scooters being the cleaner option is so important. Some people might be worried about what scooters could mean for pedestrians, but there is effort going into solving that issue. The article "Adults Are Terrorizing San Francisco on Tiny Electric Scooters" explains "...the city would grant companies the ability to rent out scooters, so long as they follow the rules. City officials say they hope to have rules crafted next month.", in paragraph twenty three. There are rules being placed for the benefit of pedestrians that will help make things easier. The walkers will be safe and they riders will still have their freedom so long as they follow the rules.

All in all, the future of scooters could be the future of people as well. With an chance to reconnect with nature, keep the air cleaner, and still have the freedom to ride, many people believe that scooters are the way to go.

RF-14

**2 – Purpose/Structure** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- A position is provided and somewhat sustained within the task (*Electric scooters are becoming more and more popular and may just be the next step to moving forward, seeing as they are both more convenient and promote a better lifestyle*).
- An inconsistent organizational structure is present. Two ideas are used to gather thoughts (convenience and better lifestyle through connecting with the environment).
- Transitional strategies are basic and lack sufficient purposeful connectivity. External transitions order paragraphs (*First; Additionally; All in all*) and topic sentences identify the point of each paragraph. Internal transitions also consist of topic sentences such as is used to identify a counterclaim (*Some people might be worried...*), conjunctions (*also, but*), and a “*however*” to help understand that to enjoy nature requires preservation.
- The introduction and conclusion are simplistic and repetitive. The introduction identifies a demand to reduce pollution and traffic and suggests the surprising scooter may be the answer. The conclusion briefly reiterates these points.

**2 – Development** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Development demonstrates partial and incomplete understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration attempts to develop the argument but relies too heavily on the sources. Although minor extension is present, it is ineffective overall. Slight bits of understanding are contained in the commentary surrounding the quoted material such as how scooters improve traffic (*...allows people to move more freely and have more space so that people are not so crowded*). The idea of reconnecting to the environment is similarly developed (*To be able to enjoy nature in such a pure way really makes people feel so much more connected with everything...*).
- Source-derived evidence is partially integrated but unevenly supportive. Some relevant excerpts from each of the sources are provided.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are not met. One counterclaim is identified (*...worried about what scooters could mean for pedestrians*). Source-derived evidence is used to rebut (*There are rules being placed...*).
- Citation is present (*In the article “scooting around Town”*). Had elaboration demonstrated more complete understanding, this response could have earned a higher Development score.

**2 – Language** – Approaching the range of grade-level performance

- Vocabulary and word choice are basic with moments of better vocabulary use (*appeal; pure*).
- Sentence structure is partially controlled. Although a few attempts at more complexity in sentence structure are made in the introduction and second body paragraph, the language facility is approaching grade-level performance overall. Much of the original writing is relatively simplistic, repetitive, and/or borrowed from source materials (*Scooters are also a good price, adding to the benifts that scooters bring; Scooters have a better mobility about them making it easier for people to get around*).
- Although there are a few conventions issues throughout (mostly spelling), errors are relatively few, demonstrating mostly grade-appropriate command of standard English conventions.
- A less academic tone and voice do not elevate the response beyond the score of a 2 (*seeing as they are*).

## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

## Bizarre New Way

3/3/3

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities. Use information from the sources in your essay.

Typically in a popular city you would see pedestrians shuffling through crowds of people, buses and taxis making their way through the busy roads, and people driving their own cars, which all would typically result in bad traffic. But with one bizarre new way of transportation this can all be changed. Scooters, one of the most favorited childhood toys, can make great vehicles! Scooters are very affordable and convenient because of how easy and fast you can get to your location without any traffic or altercations. With scooters many cities traffic problems will be solved or improved in no time.

Expensive gas, taxi rides or even train rides can all be fixed with transporting on an electric scooter. Electric scooters are very affordable and convenient for all customers who choose to transport on them. According to the source, Scooting around Town It states, "Scooters are convenient and very affordable options for travel that keep cars off the road, thus improving traffic". Improving traffic would improve the expense of gas for many people. Not only are scooters affordable for the customers using them but for many ride-sharing app companies such as Uber and Lyft. According to a source written by Neil Sipe and Dorina Pojani It states, "If uber could shift its short-distance passengers from cars to e-scooters, it would be able to use fewer drivers and reduce operating costs". The costs for scooters are much more convenient and affordable than the many other ways of transportation.

Traffic, one of the worst things to be stuck in when you have an important meeting, or an emergency to rush to. But with an E-scooter you can reach your destination swiftly and quickly in minutes! According to a source written by Neil Sipe and Dorina Pojani it proves that many ridesharing apps such as Uber agree that scooters make transporting faster, it states, "Uber is interested in e-scooters and e-bicycles because many of its ridesharing trips are short ones that could be made by e-scooters". With scooters, traffic can be improved due to the decreased amount of people on the road. With less people on the road the amount of car accidents will be improved too!

Although, many people love the idea of travelling by scooter, there are many critics who don't agree with it. Many people argue that the sidewalks have been turned into "breeding grounds of conflict" and this form of transportation should be stopped due to its lack of organization. According to a source written by one critic named Elliot Brown it states, "There aren't any designated drop-off points; riders just leave them when they're done. The scooters have GPS, so at night, someone drives around, picks them up and recharges them for the next day". Although there is a lack of organization, this way of transportation is still extremely new and will be fixed according to a list provided by a source written by Neil Sipe and Dorina Pojani.

Scooters are 100% a great, easy and affordable way to travel. Why stay stuck in traffic for hours when you can be driving quickly and swiftly on an e-scooter that can get you places at a convenient time for you. Change from cars, taxis, buses, etc. to scooters, and you won't regret it.

RF-13

SA-A6

**3 – Purpose/Structure** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- A position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*Scooters, one of the most favored childhood toys, can make great vehicles!*).
- Organizational structure is logical and allows for advancement of the argument. Two ideas provide focus for the response (the combination of affordability and convenience and traffic).
- Purposeful transitional strategies connect ideas within and among paragraphs. Clear topic sentences follow the organizational structure described in the introduction succinctly introducing each issue (*Expensive gas, taxi rides, or even train rides can all be fixed with transporting on an electric scooter*). Internal transitions help explain relationships between ideas (*Not only are; But with; Although*). Paragraph ending sentences summarize each idea and describe importance to the overall argument.
- A sufficient introduction and conclusion contribute to a sense of completeness. The introduction draws the reader in by painting a bustling city scenario filled with traffic congestion and provides a preview of the structure for the argument. The conclusion, despite its brevity, touches on the ideas developed without significant repetition and returns to the traffic scenario (*Why stay stuck in traffic for hours when you can be driving quickly and swiftly on an e-scooter that can get you places at a convenient time for you*).

**3 – Development** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Understanding of the topic is demonstrated through logical development.
- Adequate elaboration is used, including a combination of original writing with the use of elaborative techniques appropriate to support the position. Topic sentences explain each problem scooters can help resolve (*Traffic, one of the worst things to be stuck in when you have an important meeting, or an emergency to rush to*). Relevant text quotes are integrated as support and explanation provided of the how and why, demonstrating understanding (*With scooters, traffic can be improved due to the decreased amount of people on the road. With less people on the road the amount of car accidents will be improved too!*).
- Relevant evidence from multiple sources is integrated and lends credibility to the argument.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are met. Two counterclaims are identified (sidewalk conflicts and lack of organization resulting in scooters being left about). While these aren't clearly distinct or flushed out, a source-supported rebuttal is mounted (scooters are picked up at night and more fixes are coming).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*According to a source written by Niel Sipe and Dorina Pojani it states*).

**3 – Language** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Academic vocabulary is integrated, demonstrating clear expression of ideas (*Electric scooters are very affordable and convenient for all customers who choose to transport on them*).
- Varied sentence structure demonstrates grade-appropriate language facility.
- Grade-appropriate command of conventions is demonstrated. Although there are a few conventions issues throughout, multiple distracting errors in the use of grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling are not present.
- An appropriate academic tone is used throughout.

## Looking Fresh

### Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

As many may know lots of cities have started to incorporate electric scooters, that are for rent. Although, these are a great source of transportation for people that don't own a car should they be allowed in cities? Yes, these electric scooters should be allowed to be placed in cities as a source of transportation. These scooters create a great level of convenience for people that do not have to travel long distances. Also, the electric scooter idea overall could benefit many different businesses.

As larger cities start to grow in population the traffic on the road becomes worse every day, especially for people that are only traveling short distances. By allowing electric scooters the city will create a level of convenience for every day travelers. Source one *Scooting Around Town* by Massey Braun states "scooters are convenient and very affordable options for travel that keep cars off the road, thus improving traffic." For most people that live in the city they do not have to travel a far distance to get to work, therefore if they are driving a car they could end up sitting in traffic for ages. If scooters are allowed to be used in cities not only could this cut down on the amount of traffic, it could also potentially make people better at arriving to work or their destination on time. Source one also states "they promote an active lifestyle and get people back outside to experience nature." Not only are these scooters easy to get, they could potentially create a better lifestyle in cities. Lots of people choose not to run, bike, or even walk to get anywhere. Although scooters may not make you the most active person it could still help getting people outside. Some people may say that there aren't enough rules in place for these scooters. While you could say that the entire idea of bringing electric scooters to cities as a form of transportation is still a very new idea, and while it has not been perfected quite yet there is still a lot of time to make the changes that are needed.

Another reason why scooters should be allowed into our cities is the fact that they could benefit some businesses. Companies like Uber and Lyft have become very interested in this new idea. Source three *Can e-scooters solve the 'last mile' problem? They'll need to avoid the fate of dockless bikes* states "If Uber could shift its short-distance passengers from cars to e-scooters, it would be able to use fewer drivers and reduce operating costs." If Uber did make this change it would benefit their company and it would benefit the people. Source three also states "The rider can stand up which means no wrinkling of clothes. The posture is also easier for women wearing skirts and dresses." Rather than having to ride in a car to your job and risk ruining your outfit you can stay standing and not have to worry about that. Uber and Lyft both have many daily riders that will sit in a car with a driver for long periods of time due to traffic. If these companies started to gear towards e-scooters this could increase profits significantly.

All in all, e-scooters are a great convenience and should be allowed to stay in cities. These scooters could reduce traffic, create better culture, help businesses grow, and even help with little things such as helping people stay looking fresh for work. Yes, there are still some kinks that still have to be worked out, but that comes with all great ideas. What do you think, would you want your city to allow electric scooters on the streets? Do you think they will be beneficial?

RF-27

**3 – Purpose/Structure** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- A position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*Yes, these electric scooters should be allowed to be placed in cities as a source of transportation*).
- Organizational structure is logical and allows for advancement of the argument. The framework previewed in the opening is used to organize the response (short distance traveler convenience and business benefit). Although the counterclaim is incorporated at the end of the convenience discussion, it doesn't seem out of place. The combination of the clothing discussion with benefits to transportation companies under benefit to business works.
- Purposeful transitional strategies connect ideas within and among paragraphs. Topic sentences and basic external transitions introduce larger ideas (traffic/convenience; *Another reason...benefit some businesses; All in all*). Internal transitions are more purposeful in clarifying relationships between ideas (*therefore; not only could...it could also; Not only are; Although...it could still; While you could say...yet*).
- A sufficient introduction and conclusion contribute to a sense of completeness. The introduction efficiently identifies the emergence of this new form of transportation, expresses a position, and previews the structure. The conclusion is a bit better, reiterating the points made and attempting to engage the reader with a few questions.

**3 – Development** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Understanding of the topic is demonstrated through logical development.
- A combination of original writing with extension integrating relevant text quotation is used to develop the response. Although at times the commentary doesn't go far beyond the source, the response is adequately elaborated overall. Commentary shows understanding throughout (*Although scooters may not make you the most active person it could still help getting people outside*).
- Relevant evidence from multiple sources is integrated and lends credibility to the argument.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are not met. One counterclaim that is raised is that because of the newness there aren't enough regulations in place quiet yet (*Some people may say that there aren't enough rules...*). Although no source is cited in the rebuttal, source-based ideas are used to support it (new idea with time for changes). There are also general references in the conclusion to scooters being a new form of transportation that hasn't been *perfected* and there are *still some kinks to be worked out*.
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*Source one Scooting Around Town by Massey Braun states...*).

**3 – Language** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Academic vocabulary is integrated, demonstrating clear expression of ideas (*perfected; gear towards*).
- Varied sentence structure demonstrates grade-appropriate language facility.
- Use of grade-appropriate conventions is demonstrated. Multiple distracting errors in the use of grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling are not present.
- An authoritative and reasoned tone and voice is appropriate (*...while it has not been perfected quite yet there is still a lot of time to make the changes that are needed*).

## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

## Infested With Scooters

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

There have been lots people that have complained about how electric scooters cause all types of problems that affect others in a negatively. Electric scooter rentals don't seem to realize that they cause most of the problems since they try to avoid rules and laws. These rentals shouldn't be allowed in cites since riders weave around lanes that are designated for different modes of transport. These electric scooters become a nuisance for pedestrians and others. And, it can cause hazards for all involved which can lead to accidents and tragedys.

Many riders dont seem to think about how riding in lanes that are not meant for them can have an unpleasant impact on others. According to the article, "Adults Are Terrorizing San Francisco on Tiny Electric Scooters" it states that , "Riders weave in between pedestrians on sidewalks and stopped cars on streets during rush hour, and zip next to bikes in bike lanes-sometimes to the ire of bikers." This shows that riders don't respect street laws and go around following their own rules, not caring how it affects those around them. This in turn can lead to conflicts beginning to form in which the drivers, bikers, and the people walking are in the right. These riders have to realize that even if there scooters can fit anywhere, they shouldn't abuse that fact and just respect those on the road and sidewalk.\

Electric scooters can be a problem as well to pedestrians walking on the sidewalk. According to the same article, "Adults Are Terrorizing San Francisco on Tiny Electric Scooters," it says that, "...he was walking on a sidewalk, when he got into a face-off with three oncoming riders on scooters. He stared them down and gestured to the street. One rider grimaced, then moved off the sidewalk." This explains that riders believe that they should get priority over anyone on the sidewalk which is blatantly wrong. Many places where people walk are infested with scooters that are laying around until someone at night comes and picks them all back up to charge up. Also, there have been regulations put in place for these riders, but most of them decide not to follow these rules and ignore them.

However, there are reasons in which electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cites. Electric scooters are able to decrease the amount of dangerous toxins in the air since they run on electricity. Based on the article, "Scooting around Town" it states that not only are the scooters a cleaner option of transportation but they also promote people to go outside which can cause many to not stay home and actually go out. Even though these reasons benefit scooters, this mode of trasportation can cause danger for all those involved. Riders on the sidewalk travel faster than pedestrians but slower than cyclists on the bike lane which can be a perfect environment for accidents.

In conclusion, these riders don't know of the consequences that the electric scooter brings and how it can affect others around them. Those who use scooters misuse other lanes that are for different modes of transport. They can cause a nuisance for pedestrains trying to walk peacefully on the sidewalk but can't due to riders thinking they have priority over others on the sidewalk. But, electric scooters can decrease the different types of air pollution in the air. However, scooters can cause danger to all of those involved from drivers to those walking. All in all, electric scooter rentals shouldn't be placed in cities because all they cause is problems and the community to get mad.

RF-41

**3 – Purpose/Structure** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- The position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*These rentals [scooters] shouldn't be allowed in cities since riders weave around lanes that are designated for different modes of transport*).
- The organizational structure is logical and allows for advancement of the argument. The response is organized around the conflicts generated by lawless scooter usage in the same thoroughfares—first, as it relates to other drivers and riders of other vehicles and, second, to pedestrians using the same sidewalk. Although there is some overlap conceptually (pedestrians also compete for same path like cars and bikes, the placement after the discussion of impacts on other vehicles is logical.
- Purposeful transitional strategies are used to connect ideas within and among paragraphs (*This shows that; This in turn can; These riders; This explains that; Also; but; However; Even though; In conclusion; All in all*).
- A sufficient introduction and conclusion contribute to a sense of completeness. The introduction frames the concern with scooters as one with users avoiding rules and laws and outlines the structure that will be used (competition with other *modes of transport* for the same lanes and *nuisance for pedestrians*). Although the conclusion is somewhat repetitive, it sufficiently reiterates the points made and returns to the position.

**3 – Development** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Understanding of the topic is demonstrated through logical development.
- Adequate elaboration includes a combination of original writing with text evidence to support the argument (*This shows that riders don't respect street laws and go around following their own rules, not caring how it affects those around them*). The unique maneuverability of the scooter is recognized as the cause of the abuse. The second body paragraph is similarly developed with explanation of the hazards scooters pose to pedestrians.
- Relevant evidence from multiple sources is integrated and lends credibility to the argument.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are met. Two counterclaims are raised, that the electric energy used by scooters results in less toxic air and that scooters promote people getting outside. Rebuttal concedes these points and argues, using source-derived information, that scooters cause danger in other ways (danger to slower pedestrians).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*According to the article, "Adults Are Terrorizing San Francisco on Tiny Electric Scooters"*).

**3 – Language** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Academic vocabulary is integrated, demonstrating clear expression of ideas (*misuse; modes of transport; infested*).
- Varied sentence structure, including some more complex sentences, is used, demonstrating grade-appropriate language facility.
- Although a few conventions errors are present, overall conventions demonstrate grade-appropriate command.
- The tone and voice are appropriate overall for the response.



**Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG**

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities. Use information from the sources in your essay..

3/3/3

Scooters have grown and become more commonly used than ever before. They're being seen any and everywhere, from your very own yard to your favorite restaurant's parking lot. However, many people do not enjoy these new contraptions and believe they should be banned. Some reasons are because: they end up vandalized and left wherever, some of them are not legally produced and profitted off of and finally they take up a lot of space on the sidewalks that pedestrians walk on.

My first reason why many think these scooters should be banned is because they end up vandalized and scrapped. As found in Source 2: "Adults Are Terrorizing San Francisco on Tiny Electric Scooters" by Elliot Brown, the article states "Hundreds of illegally parked scooter have been impounded"(13). This shows that some of the scooters that are being produced are being wasted because the users are parking them in places they shouldn't be. The companies that create these scooters can't really do anything to prevent it either. Another example of said scooters being wasted is in the same article by Brown. In the text it reads "Others have ended up in trash cans and bodies of water"(13). This is showing another way that these scooters are being wasted by vandalism, and because the creators of these scooters have no cameras or method of identifying the suspects, the scooters are constantly being vandalized.

My second reason why many people see fit in banning these scooters is because many scooter companies rent out these vehicles without the consent of their cities officials. In Source 2: "Scooting around Town" by Massey Braun, it reads "In order to start a new venture, a typical business has to go through an official process with a governing or government body. But start-ups, or new companies, often start renting scooters to customers without consulting city officials, and they try to avoid rules and laws"(4). This is showing that many companies stay under the radar when it comes to following rules and regulations regarding these scooters. And because many of these rules and regulations have something to do with the safety of others, it is quite dangerous to simply avoid these rules. Another example is in Source 3: "Can e-scooters solve the 'last mile' problem? They'll need to avoid the fate of dockless bikes" by Neil Sipe and Dorina Pojani, it reads "Many communities lack appropriate means of regulating them"(36). This is showing that despite the fact that a high amount of companies disregard the safety aspects of these e-scooters, many neighborhoods and communities can't deal with them themselves. It makes it much more difficult when the needed rules aren't being applied and executed properly.

Many people may argue that the scooters are very useful and convenient for all. Many believe that they reduce traffic for our modernized world, however what they fail to realize is that they pose as a threat and inconvenience to our home's pedestrians, bikers, and drivers. In the article by Brown, it states that "Because some riders say they feel more vulnerable on a small scooter than on a bicycle, and wear no helmet, they prefer to steer them on the sidewalks, even though riding them there is illegal"(14). This is showing that although people say these e-scooters make life convenient for all, it does not. It makes walking on the sidewalk seem more difficult that it should be on a regular basis, they are also left laying around while inactive. From that same article by Brown, the text reads "There aren't designated drop-off points; riders just leave them when they're done"(17). This can pose as a threat to many, and even though at the end of the day someone picks them up, what are people going to do about them in the meantime? And how inconvenient is this going to be for people taking a jog or even walking their dog?

To conclude, there are many reasons why people think these electronic scooters should be banned all-around, some reasons are because: they are constantly vandalized and left throughout the streets and sidewalks, some are illegally produced and profitted off of, and they pose a threat to many sidewalk dwellers. Overall they make things more inconvenient than they have to be and prevent many people from proceeding with their normal overall lives.

SAA-8  
RF-10

**3 – Purpose/Structure** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- A position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*many people do not enjoy these new contraptions and believe they should be banned*).
- Organizational structure is logical and allows for advancement of the argument. A three-pronged organizational approach is outlined in the opening and followed (vandalized and left all over; some scooter companies evade local regulation; and a counterclaim address, that scooters aren’t useful or convenient because they compete for space and litter).
- Purposeful transitional strategies connect ideas within and among paragraphs. Basic external transitions (*My first reason; My second reason; Many people may argue; To conclude*) precede clear topic sentences. Internal transitions are more purposefully used to connect ideas (*This shows that; Another example; and a bit overused, This is showing*). Paragraph-concluding sentences do a good job of summarizing and bringing the point home (*This is showing that despite the a high amount of companies disregard the safety aspects of these e-scooters, many neighborhoods and communities can’t deal with them themselves. It makes it much more difficult when the needed rules aren’t being applied and executed properly*).
- A sufficient introduction and conclusion contribute to a sense of completeness. The introduction describes the ubiquitous nature of scooters and outlines an organizational structure. The conclusion appropriately reiterates the points made, weighs the considerations, and summarizes.

**3 – Development** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Development is logical and demonstrates understanding of the topic.
- Adequate elaboration includes a combination of original writing with paraphrasing and text evidence. A balance between relevant source-derived information and commentary demonstrates understanding. For example, the avoidance of city approval point in the second body paragraph contains relevant information from Sources 2 and 3 as well as analysis explaining how *companies stay under the radar when it comes to following rules and regulations* and because many of these rules concern safety it becomes dangerous.
- Relevant evidence from multiple sources is integrated, lending credibility to the argument.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are met. Two counterclaims are raised: that scooters are useful/convenient and reduce traffic. Source-derived evidence is used to rebut. Multiple points of rebuttal are made (scooters are inconvenient to others when they obstruct others when ridden or when just left along the path). Rebuttal goes even further to address the counterargument that people can just pick them up at the end of the day (*what are people going to do about them in the meantime?*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*As found in Source 2*).

**3 – Language** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Integration of academic vocabulary demonstrates clear expression of ideas.
- Sentence structure is varied and demonstrates grade-appropriate language facility (*This is showing another way that these scooters are being wasted by vandalism, and because the creators of these scooters have no cameras or method of identifying the suspects, the scooters are constantly being vandalized*).
- Use of grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates grade-appropriate command of standard English conventions. Just a few one-off errors are present.
- A confident and authoritative tone and voice are appropriate for the overall argument.

**Dare Devils****Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG**

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

Have you ever been in a situation where the destination you're trying to reach is too far to walk but too close to taxi to? Let me introduce you to electric scooter renting. The revolutionary idea of placing rental scooters across cities has made the hardship of traveling to short destinations not a problem anymore. Companies such as Bird, Spin, and Lime have scattered rental scooter hubs all around cities so that civilians can travel to these short destinations without having to find an Uber, Taxi, or have to drive themselves. Electric scooters should be allowed in cities because they fix traffic problems along with environmental issues, and are very convenient for people.

Placing rental scooters in cities decreases the traffic population. In source 1 paragraph 3, Massey Braun states, "Scooters are convenient and very affordable options for travel which limits the amount of cars on the road, thus improving traffic. Why sit in a car stuck in traffic when you could zip to your next location with ease?" This is important because with more people realizing the point that Braun is explaining, the traffic population will decrease. This means less road accidents, less pollution, less traffic jams, and less fatal incidents. With the experience of being in a bad traffic jam, you will be relieved to be able to travel in a city without it taking half an hour to travel 2 miles in Los Angeles. Braun states in paragraph three, "The resulting improvements in traffic go hand in hand with decreases in different types of air pollution. Not only are scooters a cleaner transportation option, they also promote an active lifestyle and get people back outside to experience nature." This is a significant factor because with there being more appealing ways to get out of your home and get active, more people will be able to get better sunlight, lose some weight which is a very big issue in the world, and have it be very affordable. Also, scooters are actually pretty fast so you can have a lot of fun with it.

Electric scooter rentals are very convenient for the average person. In passage 3 paragraph 33, the author states, "Scooters are also easier than bicycles to manoeuvre along narrow paths." This is important because with there being an option to take scooters instead of bikes, people can get through certain situations way better than bikes could. Imagine you're riding down a congested sidewalk and you need to get through people, a scooter would be a lot more mobile than a bicycle because scooters are a lot smaller. There's more situations than that one as well, picture it being blazing hot one day and you need to get somewhere. You can rent a scooter for a good price and not have to do any movements but push your thumb on the accelerator which means you're reaching your destination with a cool breeze in your face and a fun ride. Neil Sipe states in paragraph 32, "The rider can stand up which, for office workers, means no wrinkling of clothes. The posture is also easier for women wearing skirts and dresses." Sipe's point is important because like he said, riding the scooters will eliminate the problem of bad posture, and possibly damaging your clothes. Renting a scooter will also be a lot less time consuming. Picture yourself running late for a meeting, you get in your car and uh oh, big traffic jam! If you decided to ride a scooter to your job, this wouldn't be an issue.

Many people argue that electric scooters are a terrible idea because of dare devils that ride them, there aren't enough laws for the scooters, and a lot of people place them in bad spots after they've arrived to their destination. This is easily fixable though. Remember that this idea has only recently begun and there will be a lot more additions to laws, and the way scooters work. Massey Braun tells us in paragraph 6 that, "Those who use electric scooters feel that people should embrace them as part of the future. They believe scooters' convenience and ease will prove useful in our continually modernized world." With that being said, civilians who oppose electric scooters should be patient considering there will be significant additions to laws, technology on the scooter, and better docking stations so that scooters won't be littered on sidewalks.

In conclusion, electric scooters should be allowed in cities because they will fix traffic problems along with environmental issues and they are very convenient for humans. The arguments made show that with more electric scooters being available to ride, major issues in cities such as traffic accidents and traffic jams will be eliminated. This will make traveling to destinations way less of a headache and will improve the daily life for civilians in major cities like New York, Los Angeles, Miami, and many more. Electric scooters will make being active a lot more fun and appealing to people which is badly needed in several countries. With electric scooters being one of the main sources of transportation, traveling will become not only affordable but better.

**RF-54**

**3 – Purpose/Structure** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- A position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*Electric scooters should be allowed in cities because they fix traffic problems along with environmental issues, and are very convenient for people*).
- Organizational structure is logical and allows for advancement of the argument. The two ideas previewed in the opening, traffic/environmental and convenience, along with the counterclaim address, provide structure.
- Purposeful and varied transitional strategies connect ideas within and among paragraphs. Succinct topic sentences are used to begin each paragraph. Purposeful internal transitions connect ideas (*This is important because; This means; This is a significant factor because; Also; This is easily fixable though; With that being said; In conclusion; This will make*).
- A sufficient introduction and conclusion contribute to a sense of completeness. The introduction invites the reader in by asking the reader to recall a time they were in the “last mile” scenario, *too far to walk and too close to taxi*. An appropriate orientation is also provided explaining how scooters fit among the various transportation options. The conclusion reiterates, summarizes, and synthesizes ideas addressed in describing outcomes should scooters be adopted (*will make being active a lot more fun and appealing to people...traveling will become not only affordable, but better*).

**3 – Development** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Logical development demonstrates understanding of the topic.
- Adequate elaboration includes a combination of original writing with paraphrasing, text evidence, and synthesis. Moments of greater understanding are demonstrated where extension goes further. Multiple scenarios are used to illustrate (time savings in avoiding traffic jams to build on the Braun quote; connecting with nature and the ramifications to getting outside more). The second body paragraph is full of scenarios describing ways scooters can be more convenient (*picture this*).
- Relevant, integrated evidence from all sources lends credibility to the argument.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are met. Three counterclaims are identified (*dare devil riders; insufficient regulation; left all over after use*). Rebuttal does include the use of source-based information, but the Braun quote doesn’t specifically address any of the concerns. Instead, those with concerns are advised to be patient (*there will significant additions to laws, technology on the scooter, and better docking status so that scooters won’t be littered on sidewalks*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*In source 1 paragraph 3, Massey Brawn states*).

**3 – Language** – Within the range of grade-level performance

- Integration of academic vocabulary demonstrates clear expression of ideas (*revolutionary; appealing; blazing hot; dare devils*).
- Sentence structure is varied and demonstrates grade-appropriate language facility. Correctly formulated complex and compound sentences are used throughout.
- Use of grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates grade-appropriate command of standard English conventions.
- A hopeful and optimistic tone and voice are appropriate overall for the response. The response is replete with scenarios envisioning a world where scooter usage solves many issues plaguing society.

## Cyberpunk Reality

### Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

#### The E-Scooter - Best alternative to a City Car

The city is the heart of the industrial future that society has composed. Sometimes, short distances seem long to walk through, and the traffic is absolutely ferocious. So how can this predicament be sorted out? It's quite simple, e-scooters have already started to reach the cities of the cyberpunk reality most reside in today. The affordable city-car alternative has gained substantial traction over the past couple years, and shows no sign of stopping. However, there are some glaring issues revolving in the legality and moral senses of the concept of e-scooter rental. Like it or not though, e-scooters are the way of the future in short distance travelling.

There are several factors in the e-scooter industry's explosion in success and why people would want to buy into them. In this day's economy, every penny counts, which means people are starting to cost-cut as much as possible in order to stay afloat. City living citizens will choose the e-scooter over a city-car or bicycle due to the sheer affordability, as "Scooters, located and paid for with apps on phones, cost 15 cents a minute" [Brown, 17]. Combined with the abundance of e-scooters in recent years, it is no surprise that the e-scooter industry has boomed, and it is only up from here. The e-scooter is also environmentally conscious, powered by an electric motor with "a range of 20-60 kilometres per charge and have a top speed of 24 kilometres per hour" [Sipe, Pojani, 27]. With environmental protection being the hot topic of the world right now, many would be caught in the placebo that the electric powered scooter will save the world. Traffic is one of the most annoying things that can be experienced in 2023's cyberpunk reality. E-scooters are extremely useful in these scenarios, able to mitigate traffic unintentionally, due to the fact that all e-scooters ride on the bicycle lane or the sidewalk. The e-scooter proves to be a formidable option of transportation, and it is evident that the e-scooter rental industry is here to stay.

In the average United States city, one would need to walk long distances to get to a location of interest. Riding a bicycle is dangerous and requires manpower, Traffic is a given in larger cities, and walking is quite slow, so the e-scooter is almost the only option other than walking. If the same person is in a rush, the claimed top speed of 15 miles per hour will get them there sooner than later. These vehicles are also highly maneuverable, able to scoot through alleyways and tight spaces, entailing possible short-cuts to reach a destination quicker. It is quite easy to locate a scooter within a mile radius, since they are dockless. The convenience of these vehicles is unmatched, with automobile rental being limited to distant facilities. The finite top speed and superb handling can contribute to getting out of tight timing, as running can only get someone so far without needing to catch their breath, and public transport can be a nightmare if timed wrongly. Overall, these scooters are filling a wide gap in transportation, short and medium distances alike.

The e-scooter industry is not perfect, though. This is a relatively new concept, only being introduced not even a decade ago. Opponents will always note the fact that a grand majority of scooter patrons will leave their scooter anywhere, from sidewalks to rivers. However, the big names in e-scooter (and soon, quadricycle) rental Lime and Bird have tried to solve these issues. Bird in particular has "committed to a Save our Sidewalks (SOS) pledge and has encouraged other e-scooter share companies to do the same." [Sipe, Pojani, 37]. This means that Bird will actively pick up these scooters every evening, expand quantity of scooters based on who is using them, and revenue share 1\$USD to help support bike lanes. Lime pays people to collect and charge these scooters too. Another gripe that one might have is the lack of a designated place to ride the scooters. E-scooters fall into a bit of a gray area, where there is a lack of regulations regarding them. It would be optimal if the scooters would be confined to the bicycle lane, and a helmet is required. There is a reason Bird requires a drivers license in order to ride. It would also be optimal to increase the top speed of the scooters to be on par with the bicycles, as the cyclists have complained that these scooters are slower than their bicycles. The e-scooter industry is not flawless, but could be extremely viable if regulations are imposed upon them.

Only time will tell if e-scooters will remain in cityscapes. The future is bright for these companies, as they are filling a massive gap that no amount of buses or footsteps will solve. These e-scooters do belong in the city, as they promote environmental conscience, provide an extremely frugal way to get around town, and move people in a rush faster than any bus or amount of running. While there are issues, like the lack of regulations and designated space to operate scooters, the solutions to those problems are simpler than the opposing parties make it out to be. For the record, the mobility rental industry is only on its way up, and there is no room for blunders.

**RF-104**

**4 – Purpose/Structure – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated**

- The position is focused on the task and consistently maintained throughout (*Like it or not though, e-scooters are the way of the future in short distance traveling*).
- Organizational structure strengthens the response and allows for the advancement of the argument. Although ideas progress overall, there is some meandering in the first body paragraph from cost to environmental impacts, to traffic, with some overlap with ideas in the second body paragraph dealing with contrasting ease of use versus other transportation options.
- Transitions are used to create cohesion. (*The e-scooter is also; These vehicles are also; Overall; The e-scooter is not perfect, though; However; This means that; Another gripe*). Where an explicit transition isn’t used there is often a close and logical connection from sentence to sentence.
- The introduction and conclusion are effective and enhance the essay. The introduction provides helpful context and paints a picture of an urban industrial future troubled by traffic if scooter usage is not adopted. The conclusion reiterates ideas, connecting them to the argument.

**4 – Development – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated**

- Skillful development demonstrates thorough understanding of the topic.
- Effective elaboration includes original writing combined with paraphrasing, text evidence, and examples that are appropriate to support the argument. Nuanced understanding and greater depth of analysis is demonstrated. Ideas are set up by first identifying assumptions to build upon (*In this day’s economy, every penny counts, which means people are starting to cost-cut.... In the average United States city, one would need to walk long distances to get to a location of interest*). Greater depth of understanding is illustrated through examples used (*These vehicles are also highly maneuverable, able to scoot through alleyways and tight spaces, entailing possible short-cuts to reach a destination quicker*).
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are met. Two counterclaims are identified: that scooters are left all over after rental, and that there isn’t a designated riding lane. Source information is used to thoroughly rebut each.
- Evidence from multiple sources is smoothly integrated and lends credibility to the essay overall.
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*[Brown, 17]*).

**4 – Language – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated**

- Vocabulary is academic and furthers ideas, at times well beyond grade level (*predicament; ferocious; cyberpunk reality; moral senses; afloat; mitigate; formidable*).
- Skillful use of varied sentence structure contributes to fluidity of ideas. Greater control in sentence formation is demonstrated with sentence complexity.
- Use of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates consistent command of the communication of ideas. Only a few minor errors are present.
- Tone and voice strengthen the overall response. An authoritative and informed tone is maintained throughout.



4/4/4

## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

## Horrible Scourge

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities. Use information from the sources in your essay.

Electric scooters seem to be a fairly simple solution to a widespread transportation issue. Their appearance in numerous large cities serves as a way to alleviate traffic by encouraging users to ride to their destination instead. This, like all new ideas, faces problems in its execution and integration to society. Cities must not allow electric scooter rentals due to the safety issue that they present to pedestrians and the lack of compliance with local authorities.

The concept of a sidewalk allows cars to have a road free from foot traffic as well as giving pedestrians a safe place to walk without fear of being hit by an oncoming truck. Electric scooters violate these principles. "Many people ride them on sidewalks even though they are much faster than pedestrians, some people ride them in bike lanes although they may be slower than cyclists" (Braun p.5). This quote demonstrates the inherent safety issue for vehicles that can't keep up with one form of traffic or another. The scooters are weaving in and out of sidewalks, roads, and bike lanes in order to find a suitable speed. The safety issue is more clear for pedestrians, however. "The whimsical transit option has turned sidewalks into breeding grounds of conflict, pitting pedestrians against fans of cheap car-free transportation" (Brown p.12). The scooters are faster than walking pedestrians and must cut through them if they wish to pass, often at an alarming velocity. The innocent pedestrians are in constant danger of being knocked to the ground and being seriously injured by the speeding scooters. A just city would not allow convenience or consumerism to come before its citizens health and safety.

This problem is exacerbated by the lack of regulation and, indeed, lack of compliance with the regulations in place already. "Many communities lack appropriate means of regulating them" (Sipe & Pojani p.36). The new technology came at a faster pace than cities were prepared for. The companies behind the scooters failed to help the city in any way with the planning or organization for this new form of transit and simply left the city to rot under the spreading infection that is the electric scooter. Some companies have done worse, however. "start-ups, or new companies ... try to avoid laws and rules. City officials say that these companies take advantages of gaps in the laws instead of trying to work with the local government" (Braun p.4). Not only are practices such as these criminally immoral, they are disastrous in the fact that they cause long term suffering as described above. These shifty business practices directly caused the danger factor for pedestrians. This lack of compliance and lax attitude towards city laws and officials shows how little these companies truly care about their clients.

Advocates of the scooters are numerous, however. Advocates point to internal regulations of riding locations. "Bird and the other scooter companies say they instruct riders to stay off the edge of the sidewalk, park at the edge of the sidewalk, and wear helmets" (Brown 18). These claims of self regulations are dismissed easily and quickly by the simple fact that they are recommendations. No e-scooter start-up has put any form of penalty in place for these riders as is clearly shown by the fact that riders are still riding on the sidewalk. If any regulation were truly taking place within the company itself, these problems wouldn't be as rampant as they are. Another frequent retort stems from the convenience of the vehicles. "Shared e-scooters provide a number of advantages over shared e-bikes. The rider can stand up which, for office workers, means no wrinkling of clothes. The posture is also easier for women wearing skirts and dresses. Scooters are also easier than bicycles to manoeuvre along narrow paths" (Sipe & Pojani p.32, p.34). While it may seem much more convenient to have these despicable machines, in reality they are a nuisance to deal with on a daily basis. Not only is there a safety issue for pedestrians, drivers, riders, and cyclists, there is also the problem of parking. These companies are leaving their e-scooters littered on the sidewalk, making it more difficult to traverse, in bike stands, angering cyclists, and even in rivers or streams. The horrendous management of these scooters has allowed for a new form of urban technological pollution to spread and damage fragile ecosystems with discarded scooters. Companies like Bird, Uber, and Lime are putting corporate greed before the safety of wildlife and the conservation of the planet and the animals that live on it.

In summation, electric scooters are a menace to drivers and pedestrians alike. The inability to keep up with faster forms of transportation combined with the ability to run down pedestrians makes them a danger to any and all forms of foot traffic. The vile start-ups that put out the scooters worked hard to ensure that they avoided all rules and regulations regarding these horrid machines and actively disregarded the local governments, leaving them to deal with the plague of e-scooters on their own. The brainwashed supporters of companies such as Bird, Uber, and Lime are incapable of seeing the reality of the situation with regards to regulation and control of e-scooters and the true environmental cost of them as well. Any city that cares about its pedestrians, its drivers, its cyclists, its wildlife, or its general public health will agree that electric scooter rentals are a horrible scourge that must be wiped from the face of the Earth.

RF-4

SA A-9

**4 – Purpose/Structure** – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated

- A position idea is focused on the task and consistently maintained throughout (*Cities must not allow electric scooter rentals due to the safety issue that they present to pedestrians and the lack of compliance with local authorities*).
- Organizational structure strengthens the response and allows for the advancement of the argument. Organizational structure is provided by three ideas: safety, lack of compliance, and addressing counterclaims.
- Purposeful transitional strategies connect ideas within and among paragraphs and create cohesion (*This quote demonstrates; The safety issue is more clear for pedestrians, however; Not only are; In summation*).
- The introduction and conclusion effectively enhance and frame the essay. Despite the relative brevity of the introduction, it effectively and efficiently introduces the broad issues, the role that scooters can play, and previews the structure of the response (*fairly simple solution to a widespread transportation issue*). The conclusion effectively touches on the ideas presented with appropriate summary and synthesis.

**4 – Development** – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated

- Skillful development demonstrates thorough understanding of the topic.
- Effective elaboration includes original writing combined with paraphrasing, text evidence, and examples appropriate to support the argument. Higher level and deeper thinking is demonstrated throughout as each point builds on the preceding one (*The scooters are faster than walking pedestrians and must cut through them if they wish to pass, often at an alarming velocity. The innocent pedestrians are in constant danger of being knocked to the ground and being seriously injured by the speeding scooters*).
- Relevant evidence from multiple sources is smoothly integrated, lending credibility to the essay.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are met. Two counterclaims are identified: first, that scooter companies have their own regulations. Rebuttal points out that these efforts to self-regulate are mere recommendations (*No e-scooter start-up has put any form of penalty in place for these riders as is clearly shown by the fact that the rides are still riding on the sidewalk*); second, is the convenience in allowing standing while riding so as not to wrinkle clothing. Rebuttal doesn't directly counter this but uses the scooter litter problem to weigh this benefit to the enormous cost (*a new form of urban technological pollution*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*Braun p.5*).

**4 – Language** – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated

- Integration of academic vocabulary strengthens and furthers ideas (*alleviate; execution; integration; alarming velocity; inherent; consumerism; exacerbated*).
- Multiple examples of skillful use of varied sentence structures contributing to the fluidity of ideas are present (*A just city would not allow convenience or consumerism to come before its citizens health and safety*).
- Use of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates consistent command of the communication of ideas.
- Although at times excessively dramatic (*horrible scourge that must be wiped from the face of the Earth; brainwashed supporters*), overall, the authoritative tone strengthens the response.



## Plain and Simple

## Grade 09 Writing Q37764 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether or not electric scooter rentals should be allowed in cities.

You're briskly walking down the sidewalk on your way to the office when a coworker flies past you on a scooter that's seemingly traveling at breakneck speed, nearly causing you to fall into the street and meet your demise. Bringing electric scooters into our cities just isn't worth the risks to residents. Electric scooter rentals should not be allowed in cities because they are unsafe and inconvenient for others, their companies often sneak past the government to avoid restrictions, and because they create varying kinds of traffic rather than simply removing traffic on the roads.

To begin with, having electric scooter rental services in the city can pose a large risk to other people such as pedestrians and bike riders, and simply pose an inconvenience to them. As stated in paragraph 5 of Source 1, "Scooting around Town" by Massey Braun, "Many people ride them on the sidewalk even though they are much faster than pedestrians. Some people ride them in bike lanes although they may be slower than cyclists." From these statements it is easy to find that electric scooters can definitely be dangerous in society. Ignorant citizens who ride the scooters in places that they shouldn't can seriously hurt others by clogging up very small spaces and hitting people or even knocking them into the road. Being hit by a car because of a small scooter seems like a stretch, but unfortunately it is not. Another common problem is the clutter that the scooters can cause due to their dockless state. According to paragraph 34 of Source 3, "Can e-scooters solve the 'last mile' problem? They'll need to avoid the fate of dockless bikes" by Neil Sipe and Dorina Pojani, "Because they are dockless, they tend to litter footpaths, parks and even rivers." It is increasingly easy to see that having scooters with no designated area to park can cause blocked paths that affect many people. Pedestrians might have to find a different route to their desired location, or even take a risky step into the street to avoid blockages. Riders choosing to leave the electric vehicles in places like rivers can also damage them greatly, meaning less scooters will be available to the public, making the whole system less efficient. These scooters should be removed if people aren't going to be responsible with them.

Furthermore, most companies that provide scooters for the public to rent choose to bypass the government, causing headaches for many officials. As said by Massey Braun, the author of Source 1, in the fourth paragraph, "City officials say that these companies take advantage of gaps in the laws instead of trying to work with the local government." By dodging the presses of the law when starting a business, these scooter companies leave the government and city officials scrambling to find the right rules and regulations to put in place and keep citizens safe. One large problem with the electric scooters is the danger they face to others, but this danger could be eliminated with the help of government officials. However, most of the businesses affiliated with the scooter rentals would rather sneak past the government and do things in their own unsafe and reckless ways. These companies clearly view profit and revenue over the actual well-being of their customers. According to paragraph 18 of Source 2, "Adults Are Terrorizing San Francisco on Tiny Electric Scooters" by Eliot Brown, "Bird and the other scooter companies say they instruct riders to stay off the sidewalk, park at the edge of the sidewalk, and wear helmets..." This statement completely recognizes the lack of power that electric scooter rental companies have over the public. The businesses try to pose regulations for the livelihood of their customers but ultimately fail, as our predicaments still persist. If they had worked together with a supreme power such as the government that has actual control and influence over our lives, these companies' attempts at protecting riders wouldn't result in such a negative domino effect. Similar to their customers, these businesses can't be trusted to thrive in our cities.

Contrary to popular belief, many people remark that having electric scooter rental services would reduce traffic and the amount of cars on the road. The first source, "Scooting Around Town" states in the third paragraph, "scooters are convenient and very affordable options for travel that keep cars off the road, thus improving traffic." The rental scooters provided to the public are in fact quite cheap, with most charging around 15 cents per minute, but certainly pose a plethora of problems. Although the smaller vehicles are less costly than a car and do in fact decrease the amount of people driving large automobiles, many are left to wonder if they are really supplying us with a solution, or piling yet another dilemma onto the sizable stack of existing issues. According to paragraph 22 of Source 2, "Riders weave in between pedestrians on sidewalks and stopped cars on streets during rush hour, and zip next to bikes in bike lanes-sometimes to the ire of bikers." As shown by this evidence, the presence of electric scooters doesn't actually solve any traffic problems, it creates even more. The supposed space on the streets left blank by those who switched from cars to scooters is taken up by those same scooter riders, who will rule the roads in an unsafe fashion. By clogging up the roads, bike lanes, and sidewalks, electric scooters will create more traffic in more areas than before, simply worsening a previous problem. Feeling that scooters help with traffic would be akin to attempting to mend an issue with yet another.

To sum it up, electric scooter rental services shouldn't be thriving in cities because they create traffic rather than deplete it, those in charge of the services sneak past government officials to get their way, and due to the fact that they're inconvenient and unsafe for those nearby. Our society doesn't need to be made worse by such a trivial factor. If these businesses are going to go out of their way to create something that will make our cities unsafe, it's necessary to take responsibility and remove them, plain and simple.

RF-136

**4 – Purpose/Structure** – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated

- A position is focused on the task and consistently maintained throughout (*Electric scooter rentals should not be allowed in cities...*).
- Organizational structure strengthens the response and allows for the advancement of the argument. Three ideas are previewed in the introduction and provide the structure (safety and convenience, companies avoiding regulation, and traffic).
- Purposeful transitional strategies connect ideas within and among paragraphs, creating cohesion. Basic externals (*To begin with; Furthermore; Contrary to popular belief; To sum it up*) separate paragraphs. Internal transitions purposefully connect ideas (*From these statements it is easy to find; Another common problem; One large problem with the electric scooters is; These companies clearly; However; This statement completely; As shown by this evidence*). Sentences concluding each paragraph effectively reinforce the position (*These scooters should be removed if people aren’t going to be responsible with them*).
- An effective introduction and conclusion enhance the essay. The introduction brings in the reader with a scenario where a walker just misses a collision with a speeding scooter and provides the structure for the argument. The conclusion returns to these concepts and matter-of-factly demands cities handle the scooter problems (*If these businesses are going to go out of their way to create something that will make our cities unsafe, it’s necessary to take responsibility and remove them, plan and simple*).

**4 – Development** – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated

- Skillful development demonstrates thorough understanding of the topic.
- Effective elaboration includes original writing combined with paraphrasing, text evidence, and examples that are appropriate to support the argument. Elaboration explains process and outcomes (*Ignorant citizens who ride the scooters in places that they shouldn’t can seriously hurt others by clogging up very small spaces and hitting people or even knocking them into the road*). Multiple causes of the danger scooters pose are explained (*Pedestrians might have to find a different route to their desired location, or even take a risky step into the street to avoid blockages*). Moments of higher level and deeper thinking are present throughout (*These companies clearly view profit and revenue over the actual well-being of their customers*).
- Relevant evidence from multiple sources is smoothly integrated, lending credibility to the essay.
- Grade-level expectations for counterclaims (two or more with source used to rebut) are met. Two counterclaims are identified: first, that *dangers could be eliminated with the help of government officials*. Rebuttal uses evidence to suggest that scooter businesses will continue to evade even if cities attempt to regulate. The second counterclaim takes on the idea that scooters help with traffic and are inexpensive. Evidence is used to rebut this, as well (*As shown by this evidence, the presence of electric scooters doesn’t actually solve any traffic problems, it creates even more*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*As stated in paragraph 5 of Source 1, “scooting around Town” by Massey Brawn*).

**4 – Language** – Above grade-level accomplishment demonstrated

- Integration of academic vocabulary throughout strengthens and furthers ideas (*breakneck; scrambling; negative domino effect*).
- Skillful use of varied sentence structures contributes to fluidity of ideas. More complexity and variety in sentence control is demonstrated throughout.
- Use of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates consistent command of the communication of ideas.
- A logical, authoritative, and no-nonsense tone and voice strengthen the response.