

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

## Grade 10



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 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 10 ARG Item #37613 Driverless Cars

Paper	P/S	D	L		Lithocode
A-1	1	1	1		770002113483
A-2	1	1	1		770004716783
A-3	1	1	1		770005329798
A-4	2	2	2		770004707815
A-5	2	2	2		770002061785
A-6	2	2	2		770005412587
A-7	2	2	2		770005432675
A-8	2	2	2		770005371266
A-9	3	3	3		770002087979
A-10	3	3	3		770002072836
A-11	3	2	3		770005371577
A-12	3	3	3		770002036944
A-13	3	3	3		770005268061
A-14	4	4	4		770005280333
A-15	4	4	4		770002064140
A-16	4	4	4		770002054080

Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

1/1/1

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

self driving cars don't outweigh the draw backs because its electrical and something could go wrong at any point in time and the vehicle could put the human in danger.in the text it states that most humans might not feel safe around the cars that drive its self because its being controlled by a computer and something could go wrong with it ,or it could mess up ,stop working and even have electrical problems . eventually something would happen to the car becuae it is electrical and it will have wireing problems one day,and people are going to be using them so much cause they dont have to drive them self to places the car will not work anymore.this driving self car could not actually be safe like they say it is becuae your life could be in danger,and those who work for uber or lyft or to drive people places wouldn't get payed because its not a human driving its a computer and that means people would be doing there job for nothing and some people might not feel comfortable to get in a car that dont have a human driving becuae they wouldnt know how safe they would be in it or putting there kids in it by them selfs and letting the car take them where they need to go . if theres a person who dont know how to drive yet or dont want to learn how and they get the new driving self car cause they know it drives its self and they wouldnt have to be controlling the car and they go to buy it and one day something goes wrong with the car they wont know what to do expecially if they dont have the money to get another one then there stuck because of the car.

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

- An ambiguous position is stated and minimally sustained (*self driving cars don't outweigh the draw backs because its electrical*), demonstrating a lack of awareness of task.
- Little discernible organizational structure is demonstrated as the ideas are randomly presented in a vague list that is somewhat related to the source (*it is electrical and it will have wireing problems; safety of children alone in car; lacking money to get another car if something goes wrong*).
- Few transitions are used but minimally connect ideas (*because; and even; eventually; cause*).
- The stated position serves as an introductory sentence, and lack of a conclusion provides minimal structure.

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

- Development demonstrates minimal understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration consists of confusing ideas (*that means people would be doing there job for nothing and some people might not feel comfortable to get in a car that dont have a human driving*).
- Little evidence from the sources is used (*most humans might not feel safe around the cars that drive its self; those who work for uber or lyft ...wouldn't get payed*).
- Counterclaims are confusing, if not lacking entirely (*this driving self car could not actually be safe like they say it is*).
- No precise citation is present (*in the text it states*); had this been a precise citation, the Development score would remain the same.

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

- Vocabulary and word choice are vague (*electrical; wireing*).
- Sentence structure is confusing and minimally controlled (run-on sentences).
- Use of grammar (*its; its self; them self; there job; there kids*), punctuation (*dont; wont*), capitalization (no caps), and spelling (*becuase; payed; expecially*) contain a density and variety of severe errors, demonstrating a lack of command of standard English conventions.
- The casual tone and voice (*cause; if they dont have the money to get another one then there stuck because of the car*) are inappropriate for an academic essay.

**Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG**

**1/1/1**

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

personaly i think that self driving vehicles are to dangerouse to be a daily thing there are to little we know about them to put them on the roads and like it said in paragraph 8 i cant trust that the sencors are going to be reliable in all conditions.

some would say that this is a good thing becouse it will reduce traphic and accidents but the fact that it will put 12 percent of th population ot of work is still a big factor, sure the people will find new ways to support there family but self driving vehichles are going to be very expensive for the first few years we have acces to them much more than maybe a 20 dollar taxi drive. another factor is can you trust and 16 wheeler truck going 80 miles per hour to stop in time for a kid that maybe walked on the road just like Manuel Silveira said most people cant trust it, it is just to risky. now to be fair i have only read what they want me to im sure there is alot of information i am misssing but based off of what i just read i just cant trust that a vehichle that is operated by a computer is safe.

my opinion is i cant trust that if i let my pet or child out of the house are the self driving cars going to be safe for them the children are just that children they dont know any better should i keep them inside in fear of them going outside and being hit and if somthing does get hit who is at fault the owner of the vehicle ir the company that manufactured the vehicle, it isnt the owners fault so it must be the company that is at fault. this is where i stand on this situation i cant trust them, i dont want to let my future childrn out in fear that they will get hit by a car.

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

- An ambiguous position is stated (*i think that self driving vehicles are to dangerous to be a daily thing there are to little we know about them*) and minimally sustained.
- Although organization demonstrates a slight step up from the previous anchor response and physical paragraphing is present, little discernible organizational structure is demonstrated.
- Few transitions are present (*but; another factor*).
- An introduction is minimally present, while the conclusion is somewhat confusing, providing little framework for the response.
- A random and unfocused advancement of ideas demonstrates little 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 and demonstrates a lack of knowledge of elaborative techniques (*and if something does get hit who is at fault the owner of the vehicle ir the company*).
- Evidence from sources is confusing (*sure the people will find new ways to support there family but self driving vehichles are going to be very expensive for the first few years*).
- A counterclaim is acknowledged (*some would say that this is a good thing because it will reduce traphic and accidents*); however, no rebuttal is offered.
- Although there is an appropriate citation (*paragraph 8*), the Development score is evaluated holistically and is not impacted.

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

- Vocabulary and word choice are vague and unclear (*a daily thing; for a kid*).
- Sentence structure is confusing and minimally controlled (comma splices and run-on sentences).
- A density and variety of severe errors are present in usage (*to* for *too*, *are* for *is*, *there* for *their*), spelling (*dangerouse; sencors; becouse; traphic; vehichles; acces; misssing*), punctuation (missing: contraction apostrophes, commas after introductory phrases and before quotes, end of sentence punctuation), and capitalization (including the beginning of sentences and proper names), demonstrating a lack of command of standard English conventions. Errors rise to a level that impacts understanding and meaning. .
- Tone and voice are somewhat casual and inappropriate for an academic essay (*personaly; im sure there is a lot of information i am misssing but based off of what I just read*).

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

To begin with, A self driving car would make it easier for some job but not big truck driving because how will the robot get out the cars to refilled the gas no no no any car for that matter, so they'll be stock on the road, when it's driving to another country, I guess be ready for part of your car to be taken apart.

said in the text by David R. Baker and Carolyn, millions of Americans make a living by driving trucks delivery van, taxis and ride hailing cars. when technology takes the wheel, what will happen to their livelihoods?... good question there, being replace by robot will make people lazy very lazy and seeing that robot can do our job for us will lead to people making more robot to replace job and their resonabitiy like staying home all day and doing online job will be the thing nowadays and robot teaching their kids will be a thing and even being their only best friend will be a thing

according to the text truck drivers he noted a support a vast web of workers whose own jobs may be imperiled

we're talking of jobs the drivers themselves but also the people in insurance repairs restaurants hotels stern said I think it's incredibly irresponsible that no one's making plans for this, of course not everyone agrees that self-driving technology will render truckers and cabbies obsolete many truckers say they cannot envision being replaced by robots

To close it off, I do not agree with self driving cars i mean for old people or someone who's blind yeah but for people who can do it themselves it's another story for lazyness

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

- An ambiguous position is stated in the conclusion (*I do not agree with self driving cars I mean for old people or someone who's blind yeah but for people who can do it themselves it's another story for lazyness*); however, the ideas supported in the bulk of the essay pertain to job loss for truck drivers. This demonstrates lack of awareness of the task.
- Little discernible organizational structure is demonstrated as ideas used are somewhat disconnected.
- Few transitions are used (*To begin with; To close it off*) to begin the essay and start the final idea.
- The introduction attempts to identify the position but is confusing and unclear (It is suggested that we will be stuck in the road because cars will run out of gas due to robots being unable to exit the car to refuel it). The conclusion does state a position but is ineffective and provides little sense of closure for the essay.

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

- A lack of development is demonstrated.
- Elaboration consists of unclear and loosely related ideas (*people making more robot to replace job and their resonabitiy like staying home all day and doing online job will be the thing nowaday and robot teaching their kids will be a thing and even being their only best friend will be a thing*), demonstrating lack of knowledge of elaborative techniques.
- Evidence is partially integrated and related to the topic but loosely supportive of the idea of loss of jobs leading to *lazyness*. The second body paragraph is solely source evidence with little to no extension to clarify the purpose.
- A counterclaim is minimally acknowledged in the introduction (*A self driving car would make it easier for some job but not big truck driving*).
- Although an appropriate citation is present (*in the text by David R. Baker and Carolyn*), the Development score is evaluated holistically and earns a score of 1. Note: “*said in the text*” by itself is not considered a precise citation at this grade level.

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

- Vocabulary and word choice are vague (*lazy very lazy; will be a thing*).
- Sentence structure is simplistic and confusing. Multiple sentence errors are also present (comma splices and run-on sentences).
- Errors in usage (*job* instead of *jobs*; *refilled* instead of *refill*; *replace* instead of *replaced*), punctuation (lack of end punctuation, commas missing between words in a series), capitalization (missing capitalization in the beginning of sentences and proper names), and spelling (*easier*; *stock*; *insurance*) are dense, varied, and severe when compared to what is done correctly, demonstrating a lack of command of standard English conventions.
- Tone and voice are overly casual (*no no no; yeah*) and inappropriate for an academic essay.



**Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG**

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Although people have there diffrent opinions on self-driving cars. Some people think we do not need self-driving cars like that on the road some people disagree thinking that self-driving cars can put us in harms way. However there are some people who believe that self-driving cars can improve our overall perspective about driving and greatly increase our saftey while on the road.

Additionally, self-driving car's are more benifitial on the road if using self-driving car's it can greatly decrease your chances of getting into any type of trouble such as speeding, running stop signs, running red lights and any other thing's that could be dangerous on the road. "it's not going to get you to your destination faster but it will get you there with less fuel consumed lower risk of accidents due to fewer braking event and presumably lower stress".

Futhermore, people would often think a driverless car would be very expensive but that is not always the case. Driverless cars are not expensive as people would think when reducing accidents it can have a major decrease in insurance and repairs can lower the cost on self-driving cars. "Driverless car's are expected to make travel both safer and cheaper with human error responsible for 90 percent of traffic accidents they're expected to sharply reduce accidents, driving down the cost of insurance and repairs".

Moreover, self-driving cars can increase mobility it can provide trasportation to people who are unable or simply can not drive. It can reduce traffic congestions self- driving cars can communicate with each other and adjust speed to avoid congestion therefore having a better flow of traffic.

In conclusion self driving have great potential and are unique it helps with time and saftey and it can get you to where you need to be saftly and with less of a chance of any type of illegal trouble. Self-driving cars can greatly impact our future on the roads and secure prodoctvity when needing to get somewhere. It doesn't matter of any condition self-driving cars are for everyone to enjoy and is a great way to get around todays society.

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

- A position is provided in the first body paragraph (*self-driving car's are more benifitial on the road*) and somewhat sustained within the task.
- Organization is inconsistent, disrupting the advancement of ideas. Supporting ideas are grouped according to safety, costs, and a brief paragraph with a couple of undeveloped ideas in it (*mobility and traffic*).
- Basic transitions are used in an attempt to connect ideas (*Furthermore; Moreover; In conclusion*) but lack purpose at times.
- The introduction is unclear as it presents ideas for and against self-driving cars without indication of their intended position. The conclusion is present but includes source ideas not previously mentioned in the essay (*secure prodoctvity when needing to get somewhere*).

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

- Development demonstrates a partial understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration ineffectively attempts to develop support (*Driverless cars are not expensive as people would think when reducing accidents it can have a major decrease in insurance and repairs can lower the cost on self-driving cars*).
- Evidence from multiple sources is weakly integrated but somewhat supports the point being made.
- Counterclaims are acknowledged in the introduction and second body paragraph (*Some people think we do not need self-driving cars like that on the road some people disagree thinking that self-driving cars can put us in harms way; people would often think a driverless car would be very expensive*).
- There is no appropriate citation.

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

- Vocabulary and word choice are basic, demonstrating a partial command of expression of ideas (*other thing's; helps with time; a great way*).
- There are several run-on sentences and a fragment (*Although people have there diffrent opinions on self-driving cars*), along with other sentences constructed correctly, demonstrating partial control of sentence structure.
- Inconsistent use of correct grammar (*there* for *their*; *congestions* for *congestion*), punctuation (missing end punctuation, commas), and spelling (*diffrent; saftey; alwasy; trasportation; potintial; prodoctvity*) demonstrates a partial command of standard English conventions.
- Tone and voice are inappropriately informal and nonacademic.

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

How would you feel if the next time you drive you see the vehicle next to you does not have a driver? It would make you feel weird and curious. Because all of our lives we use to have other people drive us or drive our self where we needed to go to. The benifits of self-driving cars do not outweigh the drawbacks, because "Can a computer drive a 80,000- pound machine at 80 milles per hours"? What about all the taxi, uber, and delivery drivers what would happen to them when cars start driving themself, what would they do how will they feed themself and their family. Since the creation of vehicle the have been driven and control by mankind it will be better if we leave it this wasy.

A lot of people make their living out of driving, specialy truck drivers they drive all around the world to deliver cars, foods, materials, etc. They often drive in ruff weather and small roads, according to source 1 " The new system may need other kinds of sensors to work inn less then ideal conditions, he suspets. Laser sensors dont work well in rain or snow." A coumputer will not be able to drive like a human because it does not have the reflectses that a human have, stear or break at a suddent moment.

In addition 12 percent of the population drive have driving jobs what will they do if cars drive themself, they would have to go to the struggle of looking for a new job. According to source 2 " Musk said at a forum in may. Self-driving vehicles, he saqid, are just one example of how artificial inteligence could create a tremendous upheaval in terms of employment". Because of self-driving cars a lot of people would found them self in deth umemployed, and would have to srtruggle to make a living.

Although human been driving vehicles sence their creation. Self-driving cars would bring some good in today society it will cost less accident because most of the car accendent are cause by human mistake " 90 percent of accident are cause of human mistake". And less accident mean that the cost of people insurance will reduce by a lot. But it still does not solve the problem of replacing others jobs it still will put some people in deth and leave them umemployed.

At the end human stated driving cars and they will continue to do it self-driving cars can come but a human reflex will always be better than a computer software. Because human create computer and it will not supase the capacity of the human brain.

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

- A position is provided in the introduction (*The benefits of self-driving cars do not outweigh the drawbacks*) and somewhat sustained within the task.
- The organizational structure is inconsistent, creating a disrupted advancement of ideas. Ideas are grouped around the safety of self-driving vehicles compared to human driven cars and job loss due to self-driving vehicles.
- Transitions attempt to connect ideas with little variety (*Since; In addition; Because; And less; But it; At the end*).
- The introduction gives some context and direction, and the conclusion provides additional ineffective commentary and a slight sense of closure.

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

- Development demonstrates a partial understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration ineffectively attempts to develop support (*A computer will not be able to drive like a human because it does not have the reflexes that a human have, steer or break at a sudden moment*).
- Evidence is partially integrated from multiple sources (*90 percent of accident are cause of human mistake*).
- A counterclaim is addressed and weakly refuted with a student idea (*Self-driving cars would bring some good in today society it will cost less accident; But it still does not solve the problem of replacing others jobs*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*according to source 1; According to source 2*).

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

- Vocabulary and word choice are basic, demonstrating a partial command of expression of ideas (*small roads; A lot of people; be better*).
- Sentence structure is partially controlled. Sentences are mostly simplistic, and attempts at sentence complexity often lead to run-ons or disjointedness (*At the end human stated driving cars and they will continue to do it self-driving cars can come but a human reflex will always be better*).
- Inconsistent use of correct grammar (*lives; our self; human have; themselves*), punctuation (commas, punctuation at end of sentences), and spelling (*specialy; ruff; sence; accendent; in deth; unemplyed; supase*) demonstrates a partial command of standard English conventions.
- Tone and voice are inconsistent, at times becoming more of a commentary of the topic rather than argumentative (*Because human create computer and it will not supase the capacity of the human brain*).

**Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG****2/2/2**

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Self driving cars is a great way to lead our society today. Self driving cars gives us many benefits the average human cant do. Self driving cars can get us to point A to point B when we need to. Unlike human driving cars self driving cars cant grant us a safer and better way to drive.

An amazing feature about self driving cars is the amazing feature it gives to allow us to sit back and relax while it drives for us wherever and whenever we want. Self driving cars allows us to get to a place we want to be without any or many problems, as stated in text one article 4 it stated,"The car follows Gps directions to its destinaton from a tool like a mapping app." Meaning its a easy way to get to your destination with the self driving cars like an app.

A big problem to todays society is the safety issue. Human drivers death rates goes up every year by reckless driving, drunk driving, and many more. The self driving cars would help with the many safety promblems the world has today. A lot of accidents happen beause of traffic for example source 4 paragraph 40 Daniel Works states "Humans are not perfect at driving""when traffic gets dense enough small mistakes by one driver get amplified by the drivers behind them". That states that many traffic problems today can be a big problem by just one human driver. With the self driving cars it features a normal and average speed for example paragraph 43 source 4 it states,"The idea is that cars with self-driving features smooth out the flow by driving at a average speed."The self driving cars has laser sesors to indiate many thing like a moving car behind and infront of you.

With the new self driving system the cars can create buisness and take out buisness. With the new cars it would be a problem for people that do jobs with cars like trucks and taxis or pickup rides. With the self driving cars today people wouldnt need other human drivers to help them,but its self driving would take a big percentage of jobs. In source 2 paragraph 18 phrases "We're talking millons of jobs the drivers themselves, but also the people in insurance, repairs, resturants, hotels" Yes self driving cars is a great way to start buisness but it would cause a problem to impact many other peoples lives. Self driving cars cant do everything a truck and many other cars can do for example paragraph 20 source 2 Manuel silveira says "can a computer drive an 80,000-pound machine at 80 miles per hour?". Now a days driving a truck is not a simple task not even a self driving computer can handle yet but in the next generation or even decade self driving cars would be able to do big tasks and more.

To conclude my statment Self driving cars is and continuing to be a great way to lead our society. It has a impact on us humans today and also is going to have a good journey. The self driving cars does so much for us. Self driving cars helps with more then just a automatic stop to your next destination. It passively gets you to your next stop safely and all in one piece. Within the next generation or decade self driving cars is going to be able to do many and beyond.

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

- A position is provided but is insufficiently sustained (*Self driving cars is a great way to lead our society today. Self driving cars gives us many benefits the average human cant do*).
- The organizational structure is repetitive, disrupting the advancement of ideas. Paragraphs follow a formulaic yet repetitive pattern: topic sentence, citation, source information, attempt at elaboration.
- Basic and repetitive transitions attempt to connect ideas but do little to aid progression (topic sentences; *for example; With the new; but; Now a days; To conclude my statment*).
- The introduction is simplistic and ineffective as it presents unexplained ideas (*great way to lead our society*), and the conclusion contains ideas that are unclear (*Within the next generation or decade self driving cars is going to be able to do many and beyond*).

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

- Development demonstrates partial or incomplete understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration attempts to develop the argument but is ineffective and relies heavily on source material (*Meaning its a easy way to get to your destination with the self driving cars like an app; That states that many traffic problems today can be a big problem by just one human driver*).
- Evidence is related to the topic, but integration is often repetitive (*for example paragraph 43 source 4 it states, “The idea is that cars with self-driving features smooth out the flow by driving at a average speed”*).
- A counterclaim is addressed (*With the self driving cars today people wouldnt need other human drivers to help them, but its self driving would take a big percentage of jobs*) and ineffectively refuted with source information (*“can a computer drive an 80,000-pound machine at 80 miles per hour?”*).
- Precise citations are present (*text one article 4; paragraph 43 source 4*).

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

- Partial command of expression of ideas is demonstrated with basic vocabulary and word choice (*any or many problems; is going to be able to do many and beyond*).
- Sentence structure is somewhat simplistic and partially controlled (*The self driving cars would help with the many safety promblems the world has today*).
- Inconsistent use of correct grammar (*is for are; gives for give; does for do; a for an; then for than*), punctuation (missing apostrophes and commas), and spelling (*drving; feature; promblems; sesors; indiate; buisness*) demonstrates partial command of standard English conventions.
- An optimistic tone and voice are attempted in this essay (*a great way to lead our society; It has a impact on us humans today and also is going to have a good journey*); however, the tone becomes inconsistent when these ideas go unexplained.

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Do self-driving cars have the benefit of the doubt. Yes, imagine what it's like to get in a car for a road trip and not have to touch the wheel, the car will do everything. Sit back and watch the time fly this could hopefully one day be the future.

First off, the car will stay in line and follow all traffic rules. In source one paragraph four it states "Along the way, it notes traffic rules. These may include speed limits and where stoplights exist." This shows how the car will obey the laws of the road and won't get out of line. Also it uses lasers and sensors to make sure the car stays on its course. In source one paragraph four it says "It continually scans its surroundings to gauge how close it is to the edges of the road. Instead of the human eyes, it uses a laser sensor." This also shows how the car uses many different features to make sure it doesn't have any accidents and so the driver does not have to do anything while in the vehicle.

Furthermore, the vehicle can also navigate down uncharted roads without human assistance. In source one paragraph five the author states "The vehicle slowly cruised along a 1 kilometer (roughly half-mile) stretch of road without needing any human assistance." This shows that if the driver wants to take the car down an uncharted path or road it would not have any problems doing so. Another piece of evidence from source one paragraph six also states that "The new system could be paired with other computer programs that can sense obstacles. These might use lasers to detect in-road objects such as other vehicles or pedestrians." The text is stating that with some more work the cars will be able to go just about anywhere without assistance and can maneuver through just about anything with no problem.

Yet, there is another side to all of this. It could be great for people, but what about the ones that drive cars around the world for a living. In source two paragraph nine it states "Millions of Americans make a living by driving trucks, delivery vans, taxis and ride-hailing cars. When technology takes the wheel, what will happen to their livelihoods?" This states that if technology takes over then there will be lots of people without a job or money. Source two paragraph thirteen states that "(Lyft is also pursuing driverless taxis through a partnership with General Motors.)" This is showing that people are already losing jobs to technology and they are being put out of work and have no income and have to rely on others to pay for their daily needs.

Imagine a world where people get picked up in a car with no one in it, get a package delivered by a robot, or go on a trip where nothing is required of human assistance for driving. Times would be simpler there will be less accidents, people won't have to work hard to get to a destination. Think of the future the new generation, of driverless cars and technology simplifying life.

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

- A position is provided and somewhat sustained (*self-driving cars have the benefit of the doute; this could hopefully one day be the future*).
- Organizational structure is inconsistent with a somewhat uneven advancement of ideas. Ideas are grouped around self-driving cars following all traffic rules, navigating without human assistance, and their effect on the trucking and ride-hailing industries.
- Transitions attempt to connect ideas but are basic (*First off; Also; Furthermore; Yet; but*).
- An introduction and conclusion are both present. The introduction indicates the position is in favor of self-driving cars but provides little context or direction for the essay. The conclusion wraps up the ideas with a simplistic nod to a future that includes self-driving cars.

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

- Development demonstrates partial or incomplete understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration attempts to develop the position with restatement and minor extensions of sources (*This shows how the car will obey the laws of thr road and womnt get out of line. Also it uses lasers and sensors to make sure the car stays on its course*).
- Evidence used is supportive of the topic in each paragraph but is partially integrated in a repetitious manner (*In source one paragraph five the author states “The vehicle slowly cruised along a 1 kilometer (roughly half-mile) stretch of road without needing any human assistance.”*).
- A counterclaim is acknowledged but not refuted (*Millions of Americans make a living by driving trucks, deliver vans, taxis and ride-hailing cars. When technology takes the wheel, what will happen to their livelihoods?*).

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

- Vocabulary and word choice are basic, demonstrating partial command of expression of ideas (*get out of line; no problem; without a job or money*).
- Sentence structure is partially controlled. Limited variety and complexity are demonstrated (*This is showing that people are already loosing jobs to technology and they are being put out of work and have no income and have to rely on others to pay for their dayly needs*).
- Inconsistent use of correct punctuation (missing commas after introductory phrases; missing apostrophes in contractions) and spelling (*doute; guage; ther; vehical; don; aboiut; threw; dayly; Imagin; packege; woiuld*) demonstrates a partial command of standard English conventions.
- Tone and voice are somewhat inappropriately informal and nonacademic.



## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

As years pass many new inventions and new technologies are introduced to the world. Technology that can help the human race or also cause a bigger issue for the human race. Self-driving cars have become a new and more popular way to get around. But can self driving car be trusted with getting people to their destination. Self-driving cars can be a beneficial because of its safe new navigation system, would reduce traffic, and it would be cheaper.

To begin with, self-driving cars can be a beneficial because of its safe new system. In passage 1 it states, "...they developed a new navigation system to guide autonomous vehicles without such detailed map. This tech could help driveless cars drive almost anywhere.... The new system charts a course down unfamiliar roads much as a human driver would." This evidence proves that self driving cars have system that scan areas and drives as well as a human or maybe even better. The self-driving cars could drive any person almost anywhere. This shows that passengers are as safe in these self-driving cars as they would be in a car driven by a human. According to passage 1 it states, " Instead of human eyes, it uses a laser sensor. ...it notes traffic rules. These may include speed limits and where stoplights exist." This statement shows that cars use laser sensors to detect what around them and uses it to drive safe. The laser sensor detects any obstacle that it may come across, its quick sensor can detect faster than a human eye would.

Additionally, Self-driving cars can be a beneficial because it would reduce traffic. In passage 3 it states, " Driverless cars are expected to make travel both safe and cheaper. With human error responsible for 90 percent of traffic accidents, they're expected to sharply reduce accidents..." This evidence proves that self-driving cars are safer and are expected to reduce the number of accidents that happen on the road, self driving cars would reduce the number of traffic in the road making it easier to drive safe and easier back home. According to passage 4 it states, "...having a single self-driving car on the road can reduce congestion by influencing the traffic flow of at least 20 human-controlled automobiles around it." This statement proves that self-driving cars reduces traffic and also influences at least 20 human driven cars. self driving cars would save time and would reduce traffic in many areas.

Lastly, self-driving cars can be a beneficial because it would be cheaper. In passage 3 it states, "...they're expected to sharply reduce accidents, driving down the cost of insurance and repairs." This evidence proves that self-driving cars are cheaper because it would make less mistakes a human would meaning it would bring down insurance and repair costs. Accident would be less likely and so would the money people spend on fixing cars after an accident. Passage 4 states, " In addition to fewer traffic jams, having self-driving cars on the road can reduce the total fuel consumption of all vehicles driving through phantom waves by 40 percent, the researchers said." This statement proves that self-driving cars would be cheaper due to the less traffic jams and less stops that car would have to make. Fuel consumption would be reduced.

In conclusion, Self-driving cars can be a beneficial because of its safe new navigation system, would reduce traffic, and it would be cheaper. Self driving cars can be trusted and its benefits outweigh the drawbacks. Self driving cars are the future and people must accept it. Self-driving cars can be very beneficial to the human race.

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

- A position is provided and somewhat sustained within the task (*Self-driving cars can be a beneficial because of its safe new navigation system, would reduce traffic, and it would be cheaper*).
- The overall organizational structure is evident as it follows the plan for the essay laid out in the introduction. Ideas are grouped around the topics in the planned order.
- Basic transitions that attempt to connect ideas are used to start each body paragraph (*To begin with; Additionally; Lastly; In conclusion*) and a few transitions are used within the paragraphs (*because; as well as; even; also*), but the overall advancement of ideas is uneven.
- The introduction provides the position (in favor of self-driving cars), the plan of organization for the essay, and poses a rhetorical question (*But can self driving car be trusted with getting people to their destination*). The conclusion restates the points made in the essay and answers the rhetorical question from the introduction (*Self driving cars can be trusted and its benefits outweigh the drawbacks*) as a way to bring the essay full circle.

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

- Development demonstrates partial understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration does attempt to develop the argument with source ideas, restating, and some minor extensions (*This evidence proves that self-driving cars are safer and are expected to reduce the number of accidents that happen in the road, self driving cars would reduce the number of traffic in the road making it easier to drive safe and easier back home*); however, elaboration is integrated in a repetitious manner.
- Evidence is partially integrated and somewhat supportive of the argument (*In passage 3 it states, Driverless cars are expected to make travel both safe and cheaper. With human error responsible for 90 percent of traffic accidents, they're expected to sharply reduce accidents*).
- A slight nod to a counterclaim is present in the introduction (*But can self driving cars be trusted with getting people to their destination*).
- Precise citations are used throughout the essay (*passage 1; passage 3*).

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

- Vocabulary and word choice are basic, mirroring text-used word selections (*quick senson; easier back home; would be cheaper*). A partial command of expression of ideas is demonstrated.
- Sentence structure is partially controlled with limited variety and complexity demonstrated (*The self-driving cars could drive any person almost anywhere; Lastly, self-driving cars can be a beneficial because it would be cheaper*).
- Standard English conventions are mostly controlled with a few errors in spelling (*technolgies; driveless; senson*), punctuation (missing commas; a comma splice), and a few capitalization errors.
- Tone and voice are mostly appropriate and convey a matter-of-fact tone (*Self driving cars are the future and people must accept it*).

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Watching The Jetsons drew curiosity and wonder about flying and self-driving cars from youth around the world. This fantasy is slowly turning into a reality as the autonomous aspect is becoming evermore realistic in today's society. With this spread of new self driving technology, citizens of all ages are forced to consider whether the good outweigh the bad of self-driving cars. The truth is yes, the benefits do outweigh the drawbacks of autonomous cars, as this technology is more cost effective, increases overall safety on the roads, and traffic congestion has proven to become lowered with autonomous cars.

First, it was stated that autonomous cars are more cost effective than cars that require driving. This statement is supported in source 3 paragraph 34 when it is stated that these "vehicles can cut the cost of travel by as much as 80 percent". With this being true, consumers and the general public automatically see motivation to support these vehicles because of the money that could clearly be saved once this technology is accepted. Almost the entire population sees cost cuts as a positive aspect and therefore autonomous cars are seen in a positive light.

The cost efficiency seen with these vehicles aren't the only positive light on this subject. Self-driven cars have proven to be a safer option for drivers, passengers, and by-standers. This safety portion of autonomous cars is seen in source 3 paragraph 32 as Joan Lowy elaborates that human error is responsible for an extremely large majority of accidents, therefore elimination of the human component is expected to greatly reduce accidents. Because this is true, autonomous cars are seen in an even better view due to the fact that reduction of potential injury and death from cars is undeniably a characteristic that citizens want for society. Safety is also mentioned in source 1 paragraph four when there is discussion about autonomous cars obtaining deep understanding of traffic laws and speed limits. This contributes to the fact that autonomous cars increase safety because when laws and limits are followed by vehicles on the road, the reduction of crashes is supported. Therefore the removal of human error and increase in traffic safety by self-driving technology leads to a vast increase in safety to all people involved in transportation. This safety can also be assumed as yet another extremely positive aspect of autonomous cars.

With so many positive points for autonomous cars people may claim that this will lead to a sharp increase in number of people on the road as seen in source 3, specifically paragraph 30. Yes, the truth is that with this new technology more cars will begin to be on the roads at all times throughout the day, which is a very understandable point of concern. However it is blatantly described throughout source 4 that self-driving cars have features that ensure to move traffic just as smoothly, if not more smoothly than before. The use of cruise control technologies in autonomous cars (even if there are a significant amount more) is said to stop much of the unnecessary traffic. Therefore, it can be concluded that the worries voiced in source 3 about exponential increases in the number of cars, are not to be a concern because the immense technologies that come along with the self-driving cars, will limit the traffic.

As seen in all above information it is clear that the drawbacks are significantly less substantial than the benefits of autonomous technology. Cost of travel for owners and passengers is expected to be lesser than currently, safety for all involved parties is boosted, and road congestion is expected to become limited even with increase in the number of vehicles on the road. These three main aspects of autonomous cars are accompanied by many more, and the dream of self driving cars seen in childhood cartoons are slowly becoming a reality.

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

- A position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*The truth is yes, the benefits do outweigh the drawbacks of autonomous cars*).
- Organizational structure is logical and allows for advancement of the position. The framework previewed in the opening is used to organize the response (*cost effective; safety; traffic*). Paragraph-concluding sentences connect each consideration to the position.
- Some external transitions used to connect ideas between paragraphs are more basic (*First; As seen in all above information*), while others are full sentence transitional strategies to connect the ideas (*The cost efficiency seen with these vehicles aren't the only positive light on this subject. Self-driven cars have proven to be a safer option...*). Internal transitions are used purposefully (*With this being true; therefore; Because this is true; also; Therefore; if not more smoothly than before*).
- A sufficient introduction and conclusion contribute to a logical organization and sense of completeness. The introduction brings the reader in with the shared childhood experience of watching *The Jetsons* cartoon and introduces the plan for the essay. The conclusion reiterates the points made in the essay and brings the reader full circle with the mention of “*self driving cars seen in childhood cartoons*” to close.

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

- Logical development demonstrates understanding of the topic.
- Adequate elaboration is provided with appropriate expansion of ideas and paraphrasing (*therefore elimination of the human component is expected to greatly reduce accidents; undeniably a characteristic that citizens want for society*) to sufficiently support the argument.
- Evidence integrated from multiple sources lends credibility to the argument.
- A counterclaim is addressed (*the truth is that with this new technology more cars will begin to be on the roads...a very understandable point of concern*) and refuted using source evidence (*However it is blatantly described throughout source 4 that self-driving cars have features that ensure to move traffic just as smoothly*), which strengthens the argument.
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*source 3 paragraph 34; source 3 paragraph 32 as Joan Lowy elaborates; source 1; source 3, specifically paragraph 30*).

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

- Expression of ideas is clear with generally appropriate vocabulary for the task (*consumers; contributes; assumed; worries voiced; boosted*).
- Sentence structure is appropriately varied and demonstrates language facility (*Self-driven cars have proven to be a safer option for drivers, passengers, and by-standers*).
- Grade-appropriate command of standard English conventions is demonstrated with relatively few errors present.
- An academic tone and voice are appropriate for the overall argument (*These three main aspects of autonomous cars are accompanied by many more, and the dream of self driving cars seen in childhood cartoons are slowly becoming a reality*).

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

3/3/3

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Imagine driving to the store, looking over and seeing a car drive by itself; this isn't too far from a reality now. With the use of artificial intelligence growing higher by the day, researchers have created a real life version of what is only seen in movies...self-driving cars. The idea seems cool, but when you examine it, it isn't such a great idea after all. Some may say that autonomous cars are convenient, safe, and cheap, but this evidence says otherwise. Self-operating vehicles are not beneficial because in some areas they cannot navigate themselves, they would make the poverty and unemployment rate sky rocket, and they would cause heavy traffic. These have been proven to be more of a hassle than a helper.

As Americans, we have to choose the safest option for our people and our citizens. Autonomous cars are the opposite of what we should choose. This being said, because in some areas these cars can not navigate themselves; especially out in rural areas or in the countryside. As stated in Source 1: *Getting road-trip ready, and no driver needed*, "But few places that have not include smaller cities, towns, and millions of miles of open road."(2) This just shows that it is not safe. Let's say you're in this car taking a road-trip and then you reach land it is not used to and has no GPS signal for. It no longer drives and there is no way for you to get help because it leaves you stranded in the middle of no where. That sounds like the opening to some cheesy slasher film from the 90's, and your car would be to blame for you falling victim.

With having privileges of cars, comes great opportunities of work. There are millions of people in the U.S. who make their living driving vehicles. With the modernization of new autonomous cars, it puts people out of work, money, and pride. Considering this, the unemployment and poverty rate would be at an all time high. Like Source 2: *Self-driving cars and trucks could leave many jobs in the dust* says, "Self-driving vehicles, he said, are just one example of how artificial intelligence could create a "tremendous upheaval in terms of employment."-*Elon Musk*(3) This even presents the fact that billionaires and important figures are taking note of these self-operating vehicles and expressing their opinions on them. In this case, Musk says that there would be an "upheaval in employment". Not to mention, companies such as Uber and Lyft are dependant on people to drive cars, and without this they would go bankrupt and lose their businesses. In the absence of these companies, many people would be without transportation; and I'm sure these vehicles are going to cost a pretty penny, especially considering Tesla is in the conversation. So middle to low class customers are out of the question.

Everyone dislikes being stuck in traffic, whether you're going out or coming home. Traffic causes you to be late, wastes your time, and hinders you from getting home after a long days work. To piggyback off of that, the self-driving cars are going to double, maybe even triple traffic. As stated in Source 3: *Self-driving cars might cut costs but make traffic worse, researchers say*, "It will result in double-digit increases in travel by people in two age groups: those over 65, and those 16 to 24."(5) This for one, shows that people going out enough as it is causes heavy traffic, but people going out more would put traffic flow at a crawl. People in those age groups would likely send their cars out more because people 65+ begin to feel tired or fatigued from aging, and people 16-24 would rather stay home and binge watch Netflix than move. It wouldn't make very much sense to get up, get dressed, and go out if you have could something do it for you. It's nice for them to get to stay home, but for traffic its not only an nuisance, but an inconvenience.

Autonomous cars offer more hazards and hassles than benefits because, self-driving cars do not have GPS systeming and the power to control itself within some areas, it ruins peoples income and livelihoods, and they put traffic patterns at a snails pace. Let's ditch artificial intelligence, and leave it to the movies and screens to deal with.

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

- A position is stated and generally maintained throughout (*Self-operating vehicles are not beneficial because in some areas they cannot navigate themselves, they would make the poverty and unemployment rate sky rocket, and they would cause heavy traffic*).
- The organizational structure logically advances the argument with the plan for development set up in the introduction.
- Transitions purposefully connect ideas within and among paragraphs (*This being said; With the; Considering this; In this case; Not to mention; To piggyback*).
- A sufficient introduction likens self-driving cars to ideas only seen in the movies and states a clear plan of development (inability to navigate in certain areas; *unemployment rate; heavy traffic*). A concise conclusion provides a sense of completeness by reiterating points from the essay and by restating the idea from the introduction that self-driving cars previously were only seen in movies.

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

- Logical development demonstrates understanding of the topic.
- Elaboration adequately supports the argument with examples that extend on source ideas (*Let's say you're in this car taking a road-trip and then you reach land it is not used to and has no GPS signal for. It no longer drives and there is no way for you to get help because it leaves you stranded in the middle of no where*).
- Relevant evidence from multiple sources is used and lends credibility to the argument (*artificial intelligence could create a "tremendous upheaval in terms of employment"*).
- Counterclaims are acknowledged with slight rebuttals in the introduction (*Some may say that autonomous cars are convenient, safe, and cheap, but this evidence says otherwise*) and in the third body paragraph (*It's nice for them to get to stay home, but for traffic its not only an nusience, but an inconvienience*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited throughout using source numbers and full source titles (*Source 1: Getting road-trip ready, and no driver needed; Source 2: Self-driving cars and trucks could leave many jobs in the dust; Source 3: Self-driving cars might cut costs but make traffic worse, researchers say*).

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

- Integration of appropriate vocabulary demonstrates an adequate expression of ideas (*examine; hassle; modernization; bankrupt; absence; pretty penny; hinders*).
- Sentence structure is varied and demonstrates grade-appropriate language facility (*That sounds like the opening to some cheesy slasher film from the 90's, and your car would be to blame for you falling victim*).
- Grade-appropriate command of conventions is demonstrated. Although there are a few spelling issues (*woud; oppurtunities; wether; inconvienience*), no multiple distracting errors in the use of grammar, punctuation, and/or capitalization are present.
- An overall academic tone and voice are appropriate for the overall argument.

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

3/2/3

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

For the few hundred years they have been around, cars have heavily influenced our way of life. They control what we do, where we go, and how we plan our time. Yet this incredibly important technology may be making way for something greater - self-driving cars. Self-driving cars are cars that, incorporating new innovations in technology, can aid a driver in their task or operate completely autonomously with no driver. Using these revolutionary pieces of equipment, transportation is expected to become far more efficient and safe. Although self-driving cars may endanger jobs of those who rely on the driving and ride-hailing industries, benefits such as reducing traffic as well as cutting financial and physical costs of driving outweigh the possible risks posed by this new innovation.

Traffic has been a prevailing problem since the start of the automobile era; a problem that the self-driving car aims to fix. Through their use of speed monitoring and cruise control systems, self-driving cars maintain the ability to navigate through and reduce traffic. This monitoring ability is able to reduce traffic on an every day basis, even if acting alone. A study by the National Science Foundation found that even a single self-driving car with these technologies can influence dozens of traditional drivers around them. These are not the only positive implications of using self-driving cars and their technology. In fact, new systems self-driving cars utilize are so powerful they can effectively break up traffic jams, even with a human driver. An example of this is the adaptive cruise control system, which can offset human error by moving at a constant speed and avoiding over braking. As stated by Daniel Work, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at Vanderbilt, "Humans are not perfect at driving", "small mistakes by one driver get amplified by the drivers behind them". Self-driving cars will combat this issue, making travel quicker and safer as they do it.

Another positive aspect of self-driving cars is their ability to reduce strain on the driver and their wallet. The journal Transportation Research estimates that self-driving vehicles will be able to cut the costs of transportation and travel by up to 80 percent. This comes not only from less fuel consumption in traffic, but also from a drastically decreased rate of accidents lowering costs of car insurance and possible repairs. This improved accident rate has both economic benefits and lowers risk to the people in the automobile. Self-driving cars will also allow passengers to better use their time, being productive while travelling to their destination. Don MacKenzie, a transportation researcher from the University of Washington, states "the biggest cost of car travel is drivers' time" and allowing something else to take the wheel for a few hours can allot time to finish a project, catch up on the news, or take a nap. Being productive is not the only effect self-driving cars will have on drivers - fewer accidents, traffic jams, and instances of manual braking will greatly reduce the strain placed on a driver. All of these aspects combined make for a much less stressful experience while navigating roads.

Some may claim that the creation of new technologies such as self-driving cars will create a massive void in the driving industry. With the influx of self-driving cars and trucks, millions of people working these jobs would be placed at economic risk. Although this may be true to an extent, the development of these new technologies gives ample time for workers to find a new career. Christian Perea, part time driver for Uber and Lyft, puts it best "I don't think it will be a situation where robots show up one day and clean the house within five minutes. It will happen slowly enough for me and others to adapt and find other ways of earning money". Additionally some companies working on self-driving technology aren't looking to replace workers in the field. Germany's lead truck producer Daimler states that its systems aren't designed to phase out manual truck drivers, but to assist them in their job's taxing operations. All of these factors combined mitigates the risk of economic peril in the driving industry.

Self-driving cars and their innovations will change the face of transportation as we know it. With usage of revolutionary systems that increase safety and efficiency, many aspects of driving will be changed for the better. Through their ability to reduce traffic as well as minimize physical and economic strain on the driver and by using cooperation with workers to minimize the risk of financial stress in the industry, self-driving cars will greatly and positively impact the practice of travel.

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

- The position is stated in the introduction and maintained throughout (*self driving cars....benefits such as reducing traffic as well as cutting financial and physical costs of driving*).
- Organizational structure is logical and allows for advancement of the position. The framework previewed in the opening is used to organize the response (*reducing traffic; cutting financial and physical costs*).
- Purposeful transitional strategies connect ideas within and among paragraphs (*These are not the only positive implications; Another positive aspect; not only; Being productive is not the only effect self-driving cars will have; Additionally*).
- The introduction is sufficient and gives some context for the argument as well as a preview of the ideas used as support. The conclusion contributes to a sense of completeness by clearly restating the points of the argument to solidify the position.

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

- Logical development demonstrates understanding of the topic.
- Adequate elaboration uses a combination of techniques including extended examples and paraphrasing that appropriately support the position (*Self-driving cars will combat this issue, making travel quicker and safer as they do it; This improved accident rate has both economic benefits and lowers risk to the people in the automobile*).
- Relevant, integrated evidence from multiple sources lends credibility to the argument (*Humans are not perfect at driving; the biggest cost of car travel is drivers' time*).
- A counterclaim is acknowledged in the introduction (*Although self driving cars may endanger jobs of those who rely on the driving and ride-hailing industries*). That counterclaim is further addressed in the third body paragraph (*Some may claim that the creation of new technologies such as self-driving cars will create a massive void in the driving industry*) and refuted using source evidence (*I don't think it will be a situation where robots show up one day and clean the house within five minutes. It will happen slowly enough for me and others to adapt and find other ways of earning money*).
- **Only secondary citations (citation of a source within a source) are provided in this response (*Daniel Work; Don MacKenzie; Christian Perea*). With precise citations (Author name, passage title, title of source, source number, paragraph number), the response would have received a score of 3 in Development.**

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

- Integration of academic vocabulary demonstrates clear expression of ideas (*revolutionary; prevailing; implications; utilize; influx; mitigates; economic peril*).
- Sentence structure is varied and demonstrates grade-appropriate language facility (*This comes not only from less fuel consumption in traffic, but also from a drastically decreased rate of accidents lowering costs of car insurance and possible reapirs*).
- Although a few conventions errors are present, particularly spelling (*incredily; probelm; doxens; reapirs; feild*), overall conventions demonstrate grade-appropriate command.
- An informed tone and voice are appropriate for the overall argument.



## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

3/3/3

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Self-driving cars are most likely the technology of the future. With so many companies working on giving more and more control to computers and AI, it seems most likely that while the transition will be slow, it will certainly happen. Of course, the issue of self-driving cars and their drawbacks have been becoming a more major talking point as the technology for it gets better and better. However, the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks of them, with them having the ability to reduce accidents and traffic, as well as save time for the people who use them.

Self-driving cars will save a lot of time for the people who use them. As Joan Lowy says, "Communters will be able to work, sleep, eat or watch movies on the way to the office," as one of the many things a self-driving car can do. Currently, it is unknown just how much it will be able to do; even Gary Silberg, states that "[Self-driving cars] will be all sorts of things we can't even think of today." However, what we do know is that self-driving cars will bring convenience to the masses, allowing people to not worry about a core part of their lives, especially in the US: driving. Convenience is a major factor for why the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Besides convenience, self-driving cars will also reduce the number of accidents and traffic. It should be noted that "human error [is] responsible for 90 percent of traffic accidents," as humans tend to make mistakes. With self-driving cars, while it may not get to your desination much faster, Daniel Work notes that "...it will get you there with less fuel consumed, lower risk of accidents due to fewer braking events and presumably lower stress," due to the fact that self-driving cars will be more efficient than their human counterparts. Even a study by the National Science Foundation found that "having a single self-driving car on the road can reduce congestion by influencing the traffic flow of at least 20 human-controlled automobiles around it," as "phantom jams," jams caused by a chain reaction when one driver has to hit the brakes and the others follow suit, causing a chain reaction traffic, are reduced as self-driving cars do not cause them. Due to them not being human and able to predict traffic, self-driving cars will reduce the number of accidents and traffic.

However, some argue that even with all of the benefits listed above, self-driving cars may still be more bad than good. They point at the number of people whose work depends on driving a car, and ask questions like, "If you have self-driving cars, then what happens to the 12 percent of the population whose job it is to drive a car or drive a truck?" as Elon Musk has stated. However, it's important to note that the transition from people driving cars to self-driving cars will be slow, with Chrisitan Perea, a driver who does both Uber and Lyft, stating that, "But I don't think it will be a situation where robots show up one day and clean house within five minutes. It will happen slowly enough for me and others to adapt and find other ways of earning money," suggesting that many people driving cars today will be able to find a job before the self-driving cars of tomorrow comes. Even trucks won't be replaced fast, as the questions like "Can a computer drive an 80,000-pound machine at 80 miles per hour?" as asked by Manuel Silveira are still uncertain, with many confident that if so, a computer won't be able to do so at least in the next couple of years. While self-driving cars will take over some jobs, it will happen slowly enough for many to transition to other jobs.

Self-driving cars are the way of the future, and for a good reason. With the fact that they are self-driving, they will be able to save humans a lot of times when it comes to things like driving and getting groceries. Also, due to the fact that they do not have human error, they can reduce accidents and traffic majorly, making the roads safer for all. And even if self-driving cars will replace a decent amount of jobs, the transition from human drivers to self-driving cars will be slow enough that many will be able to find other jobs in the meantime. When self-driving cars will fully come is an unknown answer, but when it does come, it will improve human life in a number of ways.

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

- A position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*However, the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks of them, with them having the ability to reduce accidents and traffic, as well as save time for the people who use them*).
- The organizational structure follows the plan laid out in the introduction and logically advances the argument.
- Varied transitions purposefully connect ideas within and among paragraphs (*Currently; However; Besides; while it may not; Even a study; Due to them; With the fact; Also; When*).
- A sufficient introduction includes mention of self-driving cars in the future as well as the plan for the essay. The conclusion brings us back to that idea of self-driving cars in our future and wraps up the points used in the argument. Both contribute to a sense of completeness.

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

- Logical development of ideas demonstrates an understanding of the topic.
- Adequate elaboration combines various techniques including thoughtful insight and selective paraphrasing to appropriately support the argument (*what we do know is that self-driving cars will bring convenience to the masses, allowing people to not worry about a core part of their lives, especially in the US: driving*).
- Relevant, integrated evidence from multiple sources lends credibility to the argument.
- A counterclaim is addressed (*They point at the number of people whose work depends on driving a car, and ask questions like, ... what happens to the 12 percent of the population whose job it is to drive a car or drive a truck*) and rebutted using source evidence (*But I don't think it will be a situation where robots show up one day and clean house within five minutes*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited (*Joan Lowy*) once using a precise citation. Other names mentioned (*Gary Silberg; Daniel Work; Elon Musk; Christian Perea; Manuel Silveira*) are all secondary citations (citation of a source within a source) and would not be enough on their own to be accepted as the precise citation necessary to open the door to a 3 or a 4 in Development.

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

- Integration of appropriate vocabulary demonstrates clear expression of ideas (*counterparts; follow suit; predict; meantime*).
- Sentence structure is varied and demonstrates grade-appropriate language facility (*Also, due to the fact that they do not have human error, they can reduce accidents and traffic majorly, making the roads safer for all*).
- Use of grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrate grade-appropriate command of standard English conventions with relatively few errors present.
- Tone and voice are appropriate for this academic argument.

**Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG**

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Like the horse and buggy once was replaced by the automobile, a wave of innovation has brought along a new participant in the transportation industry that will revolutionize the market. Self-driving cars are slowly becoming a very real solution to traffic and may also reduce risk of crashes. Autonomous vehicles may range from a sedan to a full sized truck as well, meaning it may seriously impact not only the consumer market, but also the foundation that transports supplies to the country's biggest industries. Self-driving vehicles do not aim to take jobs away but instead make them easier. It is therefore clear that the benefits of self driving vehicles outweigh their drawbacks.

As of right now, autonomous vehicles are only really put to good use in big cities that have been mapped out electronically, for self-driving cars to navigate. However, long stretches of open road, small cities, and smaller towns are left unconquered by this technology, due to the impossibility of mapping out every road in the country to make autonomous vehicles more effective. This has created a need for new technology to be developed. Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have found the answer to making self-driving cars more reliable in uncharted territory, the new system "continually scans its surroundings to gauge how close it is to the edges of the road. Instead of human eyes, it uses a laser sensor. At the same time, the car follows GPS directions to its destination from a tool like a mapping app." (Source 1) discusses Maria Temming, author of "Getting road-trip ready, and no driver needed. This will make autonomous vehicles much more usable in these parts of the country.

This leads to my next claim, that self driving cars and trucks will help support the business of trucking and take it to the next level. The ability of self driving vehicles, to be used in many more parts of the country makes autonomous, or near autonomous trucking much more feasible. Many opponents of this technology argue that it will cost a lot of jobs in these businesses, and render these professional drivers obsolete. However, "many truckers say that they cannot envision being replaced by robots." (Source 2) argue David R. Baker and Carolyn Said, explaining that a lot of this technology is really meant to only assist truckers, not replace them. "German Auto giant Daimler...which has been testing its own autonomous truck...pitches its Inspiration Truck system as a way to maintain consistent speeds, stay in lanes and brake as needed." (Source 2). This makes it clearer than ever that autonomous trucks are not here to replace, but to empower.

As with any surging technology, there tends to be a lot of pushback towards the implementation of autonomous vehicles into the consumer market. Joan Lowy, author of "Self-driving cars might cut costs but make traffic worse" argues that if "vehicles can cut the cost of travel by as much as 80 percent. That in turn drives up miles traveled by 60 percent" (Source 3). The demand for safer, cheaper, and more convenient transportation is certainly attractive and will draw a lot more people to be on the road. Lowy's main argument is that this dramatic increase in cars on the road will make traffic a lot worse. In contrast, Dalvin Brown, author of "How self-driving car or adaptive cruise control could ease traffic jams" brings to light a National Science Foundation study that having a single self driving car will reduce the traffic of the other cars around it (Source 4). This is because humans are imperfect, and any slight errors in acceleration and braking are amplified in a line of cars, causing traffic jams. The obvious solution to this would be the use of self-driving cars, that are perfect driving machines that will make a lot less mistakes when driving. In the same National Science Foundation experiment mentioned earlier, in the simulated environment that they created, the natural stop-and-go waves caused in a closed track were reduced and stabilized with the introduction of a self driving vehicle. (Source 4). Other benefits can also be extrapolated from this, as Brown also proposes that this technology will lead to "Less fuel consumed, lower risk of accidents due to fewer braking events and presumably lower stress" (source 4).

In conclusion, autonomous vehicles have made strides in becoming much more accessible and usable in a wider range of scenarios. Allowing them to function as autonomous trucks as well, that may give truckers an advantage, making the transportation of goods that support our economy much easier and safer. It is clear the benefits of autonomous vehicles outweigh the drawbacks. As they will ease traffic and lead to a safer and convenient way to transport people and goods.

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

- A position is focused on the task and generally maintained throughout (*It is therefore clear that the benefits of self driving vehicles outweigh their drawbacks*)
- The organizational structure allows for a logical advancement of the argument. Ideas progress logically from a need for better technology enabling self-driving cars to be used in more places, to support for the trucking industry, to a discussion concerning pushback towards the implementation of self-driving cars.
- Varied transitions purposefully connect ideas within and among paragraphs (*As of right now; However; This leads to my next claim; As with any surging technology; In contrast; In conclusion*).
- A sufficient introduction and conclusion contribute to a sense of completeness. The introduction engages the reader by making an analogy between the horse and buggy being replaced by the automobile and moving from current transportation modes to self-driving vehicles. The conclusion provides a sense of completeness by restating points made in the argument and ending with the benefits that this change will lead to.

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

- Logical development of ideas demonstrates an understanding of the topic.
- Adequate elaboration is provided with appropriate expansion of ideas and supportive paraphrasing (*However, long stretches of open road, small cities, and smaller towns are left unconquered by this technology; This makes it clearer than ever that autonomous trucks are not here to replace, but to empower*).
- Relevant, integrated evidence from multiple sources lends credibility to the argument.
- Counterclaims are sufficiently addressed and refuted in two different paragraphs. The first counterclaim is addressed in the second body paragraph (*Many opponents of this technology argue that it will cost a lot of jobs*) and refuted with source ideas (*“many truckers say they cannot envision being replaced by robots”*) and logical student ideas (*...explaining that a lot of this technology is really meant to only assist truckers, not replace them; This makes it clearer than ever that autonomous trucks are not here to replace, but to empower*). A second counterclaim is addressed in the third body paragraph (*Lowy’s main argument is that this dramatic increase in cars on the road will make traffic a lot worse*) and refuted with the source (*having a single self driving car will reduce the traffic of the other cars around it*).
- Appropriate citations are provided (*Source 1; Source 2; Source 3; Source 4*).

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

- Academic vocabulary is integrated, demonstrating clear expression of ideas (*revolutionize; feasible; extrapolated; scenarios*)
- Varied sentence structure is used, demonstrating grade-appropriate language facility (*Autonomous vehicles may range from a sedan to a full sized truck as well, meaning it may seriously impact not only the consumer market, but also the foundation that transports supplies to the country’s biggest industries*).
- Use of grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates grade-appropriate command of standard English conventions.
- Tone and voice are appropriate for the overall argument, conveying confidence in the position.

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Recently, it has been brought to the world's attention that autonomous cars, also known as self-driving cars, are an increasing possibility in today's modern time. The question globally being asked is; do the benefits of these self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks? The only reasonable response to this would be absolutely not. The reasons for this would be that they are far too unreliable momentarily, they would cost a surplus of jobs, and they would increase traffic heavily. It is paramount for society's future to look at this debate from every perspective to truly understand why it is not a smart choice.

Primarily, autonomous cars are too unreliable as of right now. The reason for this is that we do not know everything needed for these types of cars yet. There are a few features in plenty of cars today that promote "self-driving", so why do we need more? This is more than enough; people would feel much safer if there is a human driving the car. Imagine looking out your car window at the car next to yours and you see nobody in the driver's seat. You would be utterly shocked. Thinking about it is terrifying and it is not how it should be. Evidently, in Source 1: Getting road-trip ready, and no driver needed, written by Maria Temming, an electrical and computer engineer at WPI, Alexander Wyglinski explains, "Laser sensors don't work well in rain or snow, for instance." To elaborate on Wyglinski's point, the system of these cars would be using lasers to sense objects around them, for example pedestrians or other obstacles in their way. In this instance, he says these sensors are not the best in certain weather conditions. This may result in accidents, perhaps even more than human error. Relying on a laser sensor, especially in driving, more so in harsher weather conditions, is a ginormous risk that should not be taken. It is a code for disaster. To add on to this, in Source 4: How self-driving car or adaptive cruise control could ease traffic jams by Dalvin Brown, an associate professor at Vanderbilt, Daniel Work, discusses that, "Humans are not perfect at driving," while this is undoubtedly the truest thing anyone has ever said, it also should be understood that no human ever in existence is perfect at anything, actually. All humans are bound to make mistakes. In relevance to our situation of autonomous cars, humans are the ones that are programming these cars. In their process of programming these cars, they have to meticulously create 3-D maps, without missing as much as a centimeter of a detail. All in all, a human is bound to make a mistake during the making of these maps and it could easily turn to disaster for these cars.

Additionally, self-driving cars would cost people their jobs. Think about the Uber drivers, the taxis, the commercial truck drivers. If autonomous vehicles took over, none of these jobs would really be needed any longer; therefore, the people working these jobs would end up jobless. They would lose money and it would be difficult for them to survive. In some of these cases, some of these people have these jobs because they are unfortunately unable to get more of a higher end job—it would be selfish to say that they can just "find another job" because what if they are unable to? This will result in a "tsunami of labor displacement," according to a Stern, former president of the Service Employees International Union. In other words, labor displacement is exactly what it sounds like—the displacement of workers. Another significant note to take in mind is that it will not only be affecting those who are actually driving; think about insurance workers, repairs, restaurants, even hospital workers. Those who work in insurance for cars will have nothing to do anymore, they will be making far less money. Repairs will have nothing to repair since nobody would be taking the cars in since they are no longer driving. Restaurants—the drive-throughs? Delivery? Gone. Not to mention, a ton of trauma work from the hospital is from people in car accidents; while it is so amazing that there may be less human fatalities from car crashes, what about the people that now have nothing to take care of anymore? What about the economy after this? Overall, it seems like a selfish decision. The negatives strongly outweigh the positives, especially with just this one issue.

Furthermore, traffic would also be increased. Source 3, written by Joan Lowy explains how "People may stay home more because they can send their cars to do things like pick up groceries they've ordered online." Unequivocally, people are just going to send their cars out to run errands for them. Why would they go out if they do not need to? They can just stay home and let the car do things for them. With more people doing this, more cars will just be out and about on the road, resulting in even more traffic than today. This is, without a doubt, going to result in even more accidents. This is because with the cars first off being programmed by humans, these cars do not have a brain and will not know what to do in these situations. It is too advanced for them and they obviously are not ready for it. To continue, Gary Silberg, an auto-industry expert makes the smart comparison of comparing this to smartphones. Most people in today's world, especially adults, commonly all debate that everyone is too reliant and addicted to their phones. Well, this is not far different. What happens when people get too reliant on these cars and then do not even learn how to drive in the first place? It is not smart to pick and choose which things to be reliant on, specifically it is unintelligent to be that way since it is so impactful on our future. In future generations what will happen? Will driver tests even be a thing? Is traffic going to be permanent—and even worse than it is now?

On the flip side, many feel otherwise and debate that the positives outweigh the negatives. They say that people have time to find new jobs and this is not happening instantly. They also say that the programming is extremely strategic and are done by professionals. While this all may be true, it does not change the downsides and other underlying effects that they have yet to look into. Maybe those that are lucky have the time to find new jobs, but they might also have families to feed, might not have a college education, and may not find another good job that can help them in the way they need it to. Not to mention without a ton of these workers and the displacement of them it will result in the economy having a significant change. It is far too debatable and will cause a global ruckus. Addressing the programming being abundantly strategic, it of course will be, but it does not change the fact that on the road everything is unexpected. Things that happen while driving will always be unexpected and most of the times a computer just will not be able to deal with that. What happens when on a road trip and a deer runs out in the middle of the road suddenly? I highly doubt that the laser sensor is going to detect something like that, that fast, especially after learning that these sensors do not work so great in some types of weather conditions. There are endless scenarios and possibilities that are unavoidable.

In summary, the question of if the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks can be concluded as a hard no. The unreliability, job costing, and increased traffic all are too strong negatives to be thinking about the positives. Hopefully for the future, another possible outcome can be made and perhaps solutions will erupt. As of right now, my answer stays at a no.

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

- A position is focused on the task and consistently maintained throughout (*do the benefits of these self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks? The only reasonable response to this would be absolutely not*).
- The organizational structure strengthens the response and allows for the advancement of the argument. Paragraphs stay tightly focused on the ideas noted in the introduction (self-driving cars currently are unreliable; *cost a surplus of jobs; increase traffic heavily*).
- Purposeful transitional strategies, including topic sentences to start each body paragraph, connect ideas within and among paragraphs, creating cohesion (*Primarily; Evidently; In this instance; All in all; In some of these cases; Another significant note; On the flip side; While this all may be true*).
- The introduction and conclusion are effective and enhance the essay. The introduction provides helpful context and effectively orients the reader to what will follow. The conclusion is succinct but provides a sense of completeness to the argument.

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

- Skillful development demonstrates thorough understanding of the topic.
- Effective elaboration combines varied techniques including paraphrasing, text evidence, and extended examples and analysis that appropriately support the position (*This may result in accidents, perhaps even more than human error; All humans are bound to make mistakes. In relevance to our situation of autonomous cars, humans are the ones that are programming these cars*).
- Relevant evidence is chosen selectively from multiple sources and smoothly integrated, lending credibility to the argument (*“Humans are not perfect at driving”; “find another job”*).
- Two counterclaims have been fully addressed in the fourth body paragraph. The first is addressed (*They say that people have time to find new jobs and this is not happening instantly*) and refuted using logical reasoning (*Maybe those that are lucky have the time to find new jobs, but they might also have families to feed, might not have a college education, and may not find another good job*). The second counterclaim is addressed (*They also say that the programming is extremely strategic and are done by professionals*) and refuted using reasoning and source-based ideas (*I highly doubt that the laser sensor is going to detect something like that, that fast, especially after learning that these sensors do not work so great in some types of weather conditions*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited with many precise examples (*Source 1; Source 4*).

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

- Integration of academic vocabulary strengthens and furthers ideas (*obstacles; Unequivocally; impactful; strategic; debatable; abundantly*).
- Skillful use of varied sentence structure contributes to fluidity of ideas (*Most people in today’s world, especially adults, commonly all debate that everyone is too reliant and addicted to their phones*).
- Aside from a couple of misspelled words, use of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates consistent command of the communication of ideas.
- Tone and voice express a solid understanding of the material and confidence in the position (*While this all may be true, it does not change the downsides and other underlying effects that they have yet to look into*).

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

4/4/4

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

Today, the world has become so advanced that inventions that were once works of fiction have now become reality. Self-driving cars have become a bigger topic in recent years, and now, they appear to be hitting the streets for the first time. There have been a lot of questions on the effectiveness of self-driving cars, but while much research, it has been shown that self-driving cars are cheaper, safer, and are a time saver. While there still may be people who aren't sold on the idea of self-driving cars, the benefits of self-driving cars do outweigh the drawbacks.

To start, one benefit of self-driving cars is that they are cheaper for the consumer. The cars themselves might be a bit expensive, but using them as a means of transportation will be a much more cost-effective alternative to standard cars. The journal *Transportation Research: Part A* from Don MacKenzie, a transportation researcher from the University of Washington, and other researchers has predicted that self-driving vehicles "can cut the cost of travel by as much as 80 percent." What this means is that people who use self-driving cars will not have to pay nearly as much for traveling, which in turn will lead to the self-driving cars being used more often. If it's cheaper for the consumer to use a car that they don't even have to drive, there's no reason for anyone to decline that offer. Moreover, self-driving cars could also be linked to more than just cheaper traveling. As the passage, "Self-driving cars might cut costs but make traffic worse, researchers say" by Joan Lowy, mentions, these self-driving cars could be responsible for "driving down the cost of insurance and repairs." Since there isn't an actual human driving these self-driving cars, there is no reason for people to deal with expensive insurance rates. The cars drive themselves, so nobody should be charged more if the car was to get into an accident. Since the cars cause less accidents in the first place, then that will also mean less money will have to be spent fixing anything in the car that had been damaged. It has been shown that self-driving cars are a cheaper alternative to normal cars in a multitude of ways, which is why the benefits of self-driving cars do outweigh the drawbacks.

Moving on, another benefit to self-driving cars is that they are a safer option when it comes to driving. As noted in the passage, "Self-driving cars might cut costs but make traffic worse, researchers say" by Joan Lowy, it's ordinary people that are the cause of "90 percent of traffic accidents," which is an absurdly high number. When self-driving cars are implemented into the real world, there is no question that there will be a reduction in the amount of accidents that take place. When human error is erased from the equation, the overwhelming majority of accidents will not take place. Self-driving cars won't make mistakes that can cause accidents because there is no one behind the wheel to make them. Self-driving cars will follow every single driving law all the time, which is without a doubt a better result than what would be seen from every human driver. To continue, the passage, "Getting road-trip ready, and no driver needed" by Maria Temming, reports that companies, "use maps marking... with almost centimeter-level precision." If there was any questions about how well self-driving cars would be able to drive on the road, there shouldn't be anymore. When the maps that the self-driving cars follow is down to the centimeters, these cars might even be better drivers than most humans on the road today. This extremely precise driving will make sure that the cars do not end up causing accidents. Even though this mapping technology is only available in some locations, the technology is there, meaning that all it takes is some time until these extremely precise maps are all over the globe. With this, it is safe to say that the safety of self-driving cars is another reason why the benefits outweigh the drawbacks when it comes to self-driving cars.

Continuing, an final benefit to self-driving cars is their ability to save people time. As Don MacKenzie notes, "... the biggest cost of car travel is drivers' time." What is meant by this is that when you look at all the factors of self-driving cars, the biggest one is how much time could be saved for people to do other, more productive tasks. Instead of having to go to the grocery store three or four times a week, someone can send their car to pick up their groceries, while they can go to the gym or spend time with their children. These self-driving cars could make everything more convenient for people, and gives people the time that was never there before to do so much more with their time. Adding on, self-driving cars could also save people time in regards to traffic jams. A study done by a National Science Foundation found that having just one self-driving car driving can "reduce congestion by influencing the traffic flow of at least 20 human-controlled automobiles," which can be take a large chunk out of the time that is lost being stuck in a traffic jam. Self-driving cars won't make the same mistakes that humans make, like hitting the brakes too hard when a car stops in front of them. These cars will be able to revert the flow from a traffic jam back to normal, which will reduce the amount of time people, whether in a self-driving car or not, will spend on the road. Like mentioned before, less time driving equates to more time to do anything else. The positive impact that self-driving cars will have on time shows why the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

While there are clear positives to self-driving cars, there are some individuals that believe there are large drawbacks to self-driving cars. One argument is that these self-driving cars will lead to people's jobs being taken away. Elon Musk, one of the pioneers of self-driving cars, even questioned, "...what happens to the 12 percent of the population whose job it is to drive a car or drive a truck?" That number of 12 percent is quite large, and those people who do drive trucks typically don't have many other skills which can find them a job. Millions would be out of a job, and there would be nothing that they would be able to do. However, self-driving cars and trucks wouldn't mean the end of all driving jobs for humans. As Manuel Silveira, a 22-year truck industry veteran points out, "Can a computer drive an 80,000-pound machine at 80 miles per hour?" There is a reason why headlines only mention self-driving cars, and that's because it is a much more difficult task to create self-driving trucks. Even when they do start to gain more traction, the world's leading truck manufacturer, Daimler, has stated that they have no plans of creating trucks that need no driver. They are content with keeping their professional truck drivers, and that means jobs will not be lost. With no jobs actually being lost, it's clear that there shouldn't be any concern for people to think that self-driving cars will cost people their livelihoods.

To conclude, it has become evident that the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks. These self-driving cars are not only cheaper and safer, but they also save everybody time. Not only that, jobs will not be lost in the majority of fields that are concerned with driving. Self-driving cars once appeared to be as unrealistic as flying cars, but today, they are a growing industry and it is now clear that their benefits outweigh their drawbacks.

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

- A position that acknowledges the opposing claim is focused on the task and consistently maintained throughout (*While there still may be people who aren't sold on the idea of self-driving cars, the benefits of self-driving cars do outweigh the drawbacks*).
- The organizational structure skillfully advances the argument with a thorough and strongly controlled command of the task. Ideas are grouped based on self-driving cars being cheaper for the customer; a safer option; and a time saver.
- Purposeful transitional strategies include topic sentences to introduce the main idea in each body paragraph and concluding paragraph sentences that connect each consideration to the position. Ideas are skillfully connected within and among paragraphs, creating a sense of cohesiveness throughout (*To start; If it's; Moreover; Since there; Moving on; When; To continue; Adding on; Like mentioned before*).
- An effective introduction and conclusion provide a strong framework and enhance the response.

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

- Skillful development demonstrates a thorough understanding of the topic.
- Effective elaboration appropriately enhances the argument with extended commentary and analysis to support the position (*This extremely precise driving will make sure that the cars do not end up causing accidents*).
- Smoothly integrated, relevant evidence from multiple sources lends credibility to the argument (*As Don MacKenzie notes, "... the biggest cost of car travel is drivers' time*).
- Counterclaims are acknowledged in the introduction and addressed more thoroughly within the body of the essay. The first (*Even though this mapping technology is only available in some locations*) is refuted with logical reasoning (*...the technology is there, meaning that all it takes is some time until these extremely precise maps are all over the globe*). Another is used in the fourth body paragraph (*One argument is that these self-driving cars will lead to people's jobs being taken away*) and refuted with source evidence (*...truck manufacturer Daimler, has stated that they have no plans of creating trucks that need no driver*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited with passage and author names.

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

- Integration of academic vocabulary strengthens and furthers ideas (*alternative; expensive insurance rates; equation; equates; livelihoods*).
- Sentence structure is skillful and contributes to the fluidity of ideas (*These cars will be able to revert the flow from a traffic jam back to normal, which will reduce the amount of time people, whether in a self-driving car or not, will spend on the road*).
- Use of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrates consistent command of the communication of ideas.
- Tone and voice are appropriately academic and strengthen the overall argument.



4/4/4

## Grade 10 Writing Q37613 ARG

Write an argumentative essay about whether the benefits of self-driving cars outweigh the drawbacks.

In this modern age of futuristic advancement, new technology is being invented on a daily basis. New technology created covers a wide variety of possibilities, going as far as new methods of space travel that are able to reach Mars to the next phone that promises a camera quality better than the human eye. However, no technological advancement rivals the amount of time, money, and effort that has put into the development of driverless vehicles. The idea of autonomous vehicles is far from a recent concept, with media and entertainment modeling the idea through futuristic shows or movies; however, now that futuristic fantasy is close to becoming a reality. Driverless cars are exactly what they sound like, a vehicle that requires no human input to function and move. This concept presents numerous benefits to humans, as most new technology does, but the development of driverless cars could bring negative consequences. Despite driverless cars being a step forward in transportation, the drawbacks and consequences that can arise from them outweigh the foreshadowed benefits.

While the drawbacks of autonomous vehicles outweigh the benefits, there are some who believe that despite the drawbacks, driverless cars will be heavily beneficial. According to Source 4, How self-driving car or adaptive cruise control could ease traffic jams, the introduction of autonomous vehicles could mitigate the appearance of traffic jams along roadways. Scientists backed by the National Science Foundation performed experiments that tested the driving patterns of cars driven by humans up against autonomous vehicles. "When all the vehicles were driven by humans, we would see... stop-and-go waves"; (Source 4, P10) however, once a autonomous vehicle was added, the waves stabilized and traffic decreased. Traffic jams are caused by human error, and once one person overcorrects to a sudden slow down, a chain reaction occurs and others will follow. On the other hand, autonomous vehicles are able to analyze a slow down and act accordingly and with precision, leading to less potential traffic jams and accidents. Another benefit of autonomous vehicles is that they can potentially lower costs caused by human error. According to Source 3, Self-driving cars might cut costs but make traffic worse. "Driverless cars are expected... to sharply reduce accidents, driving down the cost of insurance and repairs." Many individuals find the costs of vehicle expenses to be overwhelming, however the costs are only high because humans are the ones driving the vehicles. By replacing humans with autonomous vehicles, the expenses brought on by owning and maintaining a vehicle can be cut down dramatically and decrease "the cost of travel by as much as 80 percent" (Source 3, P10) leading to the cost of affording a car to not be as restricting.

However, the drawbacks of autonomous vehicles outweigh the benefits in a number of ways. For instance, once driverless cars are common, there will be no need for human drivers, leaving many without a steady occupation and income. In the United States, there are millions of people who make a living by driving vehicles. Services such as Uber or Lyft provide a platform for drivers to get an income by taxi-ing others around, but with the uprise of driverless vehicles, human drivers would be redundant. As source 2, Self-driving cars and trucks could leave many jobs in the dust, presents, many "drivers are dubious about their future" (Source 2, P4) and are searching for a Plan B option. Most drivers using Uber or Lyft realize that soon they will be out of a job, its only a matter of when. By taking away human drivers, many individuals are losing their easy income, leaving them without an insurance of money. Alongside public drivers, the largest potential victim of autonomous cars are the 3.5 million commercial truck drivers in America. These drivers make a living by traveling across the country in large semi-trucks, transporting goods around the nation. If driverless cars were to replace these drivers, not only would the drivers be out of a job, "but also the people in insurance, repairs, restaurants, (and) hotels," (Source 2, P10) who are connected within the web of the industry. Without human drivers, there would be no reason for the vehicle to rest at hotels or take a break at a local diner, taking away part of the business's source of income. Autonomous cars may be a technology of the future, but its not worth the livelihood of millions of public drivers in America.

Another drawback of autonomous vehicles that outweigh the benefits is that once the public has access to driverless cars, the amount of vehicles on the road will increase rapidly, making traffic worse. According to Source 3, in 2017, "vehicles traveled... 3.1 trillion miles in the US." however, that number is expected to skyrocket when autonomous vehicles are introduced. All driving today is done by humans, so the car can only go as far as the human is willing to go. This means that if an individual isn't willing to leave their house, then their car isn't going to travel. However, with autonomous vehicles, people can "send their cars to do things" (Source 3, P2) while they stay at home. This concept completely changes the amount of vehicles that would be on the road at a given time. At a maximum, the yearly amount of miles vehicles travel could reach 8 trillion miles, more than double the current amount. With that in mind, more vehicles on the road means more heavy traffic and potential hazards for individuals in the area. Source 1, Getting road-trip ready, and no driver needed, adds to the argument by describing that current models of self driving cars are only capable when the system "assumes that a car has a clear path down the road" and aren't able to handle increase obstacles and other vehicles (Source 1, P6). The current technology of autonomous cars, combined with an increase in the number of vehicles that could potentially be on the road is far from a clear path for each vehicle. Despite the convenience of having a car perform errands remotely, the increase of vehicles on the road and the lack of capability that current autonomous vehicles have presents heavier traffic and new hazards on the road.

As time goes on and technology continues to improve, the idea of autonomous vehicles is close to becoming a reality. With the promise of stress free traveling and increased daily convenience, many are looking forward to the day when driverless cars are replace human drivers. However, the numerous drawbacks of autonomous vehicles present a large roadblock for many people, threatening to take away jobs from many drivers and increasing the amount of vehicles on the road at a given time. These drawbacks currently outweigh the given benefits; however, further development on autonomous vehicles in the future could reverse the current ratio. Future advancements on autonomous vehicles can reduce the amount of drawbacks and potentially increase the benefits, fully making driverless cars the most anticipated technology of the future.

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

- A position is focused on the task and consistently maintained throughout (*Despite driverless cars being a step forward in transportation, the drawbacks and consequences that can arise from them outway the forshadowed benefits*).
- The organizational structure strengthens the response and skillfully advances the argument with a somewhat unique approach to the task. The first body paragraph provides extensive consideration to the opposing position on the benefits of driverless cars, yet the second and third body paragraphs successfully regain focus on the drawbacks position with a tightly connected and thorough presentation of the argument.
- Purposeful transitions skillfully connect ideas within and among paragraphs, creating cohesion (*however; despite; While; For instance; By taking away; Alongside; At a maximum; With that in mind*).
- An effective introduction and conclusion thoroughly weigh the considerations, providing thoughtful context and framing for the response.

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

- Skillful development demonstrates a thorough understanding of the topic.
- Effective elaboration includes robust analysis that expands and builds on source ideas, enhancing the argument (*In the United States, there are millions of people who make a living by driving vehicles. Services such as Uber or Lyft provide a platform for drivers to get an income by taxi-ing others around, but with the uprise of driverless vehicles, human drivers would be redundant*).
- Smoothly integrated, relevant evidence from multiple sources lends credibility to the argument.
- Counterclaims are fully addressed in the first body paragraph, though not directly refuted (*autonomous vehicles could mitigate the appearance of traffic jams along roadways; Another benefit of autonomous vehicles is that they can potentially lower costs caused by human error*).
- Evidence is appropriately cited multiple times (*Source 2, P4; Source 3, P2*).

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

- Integration of academic vocabulary strengthens and furthers ideas (*futuristic; modeling; consequences; mitigate; restricting; industry; errands*).
- Skillful use of varied sentence structure contributes to fluidity of ideas (*Without human drivers, there would be no reason for the vehicle to rest at hotels or take a break at a local diner, taking away part of the business's source of income*).
- Command of standard English conventions is consistently demonstrated with relatively few errors (*outway; its; livelyhood*) compared to the amount done correctly.
- Tone and voice are consistent and strengthen the overall response.