



WRITING+

FCAT 2008

GRADE 8 PERSUASIVE ANCHOR SET



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Anchor Paper 1-A

I think 20 minutes every day for learn more and better.

30 minutes every day or 40 minutes in the home or other place.

1 hour or more time for know more and you know read, write better and study always study for read better also know in other city for learn more know always every one go to the school for know read, write, math, science other thing.

Every day study more and more never said no for the read. 30 minutes in the home study and you son or daughter and every one. The students always read for the parents said I know because I study every day so every day you and family study also you sons.

Anchor Paper 1-B

Score Point: 1

This response minimally addresses the topic of students reading more at home, and little, if any, development of an organizational pattern is apparent. The paper is a fragmentary and partially incoherent listing of related ideas: “I think 20 minutes every day for learn more and better,” “every one go to the school for know read, write, math, science other thing,” “Every day study more and more never said no for the read,” and “The students always read for the parents.” Limited and inappropriate word choice obscures meaning, and gross errors in sentence structure impede communication. Frequent and blatant errors occur in the basic conventions of mechanics and usage.

Anchor Paper 2-A

I think students should read at home because ^{their} vocabulary will expand and they'll get more smarter and it keeps them busy so they have something to do besides something bad like drugs

Anchor Paper 2-B

Score Point: 1

This brief response minimally addresses the topic of students reading more at home, and little, if any, development of an organizational pattern is apparent. The writer asserts that “I think students should read at home.” Support consists of two undeveloped arguments: “because there Vocabulary Will expand and they’ll get more Smarter” and “It keeps them busy so they have something to do besides something bad like drugs.” Word choice is limited, and errors occur in the basic conventions of mechanics and usage.

Anchor Paper 3-A

The EFFECT! The EFFECT on us students would be very bad. It's bad already making us do alot of hard School work 6 hours and ^{30 min} a day 5 days a week pluse Home-work. It's just to much to make us all do so much work. The Effect on us students makeing us do so much home-work pluse read more would make us student have less time to go outside and play and exercise. Also we already read more went were on the computer, or wasteing tv, or playing a video game.

Anchor Paper 3-B

Score Point: 1

This response minimally supports the position that “the EFFECT on us students would be very bad” if students were made to read more at home. Little, if any, development of an organizational pattern is apparent. Support consists of three unsubstantiated reasons: “alredy making us do alot of hard School work 6 hours and 30 min. a day 5 days a week pluse Home-work,” “would make us student have leas time to go outside and play and exersise,” and “we alredy read more went were on the computer, or wactcing tv, or playing a video game.” Word choice is limited, and some commonly used words are misspelled.

Anchor Paper 4-A

Reading is essential to getting good grades. When you read a book it makes you think. When you read a book at home it is improving your vocabulary and language skills. Or if your grades are slipping you could go to your teacher and ask him/her for a reading assignment for extra credit.

It has been scientifically proven that reading enhances your writing skills. Anyone that reads at home will improve their test scores and reading experience. Now you know why I think why people should read more.

Anchor Paper 4-B

Score Point: 2

This writer takes the position that “people should read more,” stating that “Reading is essential to getting good grades” and “It has been scientifically proven that reading enhances your writing skills.” Little evidence of an organizational pattern is demonstrated, and the paper lacks a sense of completeness. Development of support is inadequate, consisting of several vague extensions: “when you read a book it makes you think,” “it is improving your vocabulary and language skills,” “if your grades are slipping you could go to your teacher and ask him/her for a reading assignment for extra credit,” and “will improve their test scores and reading experience.” Word choice is limited, and there is little variation in sentence structure.

Anchor Paper 5-A

That article is very important students need spend more time reading at home like 1 hour or more time. For example, you need do some essay or answer some question or read anything, or have a good memorise and a good spelling.

If you read at home everyday can help you to get a good memorise and no forget important thing and be intelligent. Read get you more intelligent and get good grades in your classes especial in Language Art.

Read everyday can give you a very good spelling and faster to write something and good ideas to write. If you should spend more time reading you going a good reader person.

If you should spend more time reading when somebody ask you, you can answer with good details and tell a good answer for him or her.

Anchor Paper 5-B

If you should not spend more time reading you do not going to be nobody. Read help you to rush for study because if you read faster help you get it more faster and understand what you are reading.

Every student have to spend more time reading that give you to much good thing like a good spelling, a good memorise, a faster reader and a good student.

Anchor Paper 5-C

Score Point: 2

The writer focuses on the topic by taking the position that “students need spend more time reading at home like 1 houwer or more time.” Little evidence of an organizational pattern is demonstrated, and the paper lacks a sense of completeness. Development of support is inadequate, consisting of bare reasons: “have a good memorise and a good spelling,” “get good grades in your clases,” and “you do not going to be nobody,” with vague extensions: “no forget important thing . . . and faster to write something,” “especial in Lenguage Art,” and “you read faster . . . and understend what you are reading.” There is little, if any, variation in sentence structure, and gross errors in sentence construction and in the basic conventions of mechanics and usage occur. Commonly used words are misspelled.

Anchor Paper 6-A

Dear Mr. Editor,

I don't think you should put articles in about mess with kids lives before you get their side of story first. Chances are, they won't agree with you.

I don't agree because kids need time to be themselves before they grow up. When people are kids, they only have a few times to be kids after school, homework, and extra-curricular activities.

Another reason is that kids have plenty of time to read at school. Kids have time in class to read. They don't need extra time to read.

Kids may get an education, but remember when you were a little kid? How you wanted to play with your friends instead of doing homework and reading? Kids still feel that way.

So, Mr. Editor, think about that article.

Sincerely,
[Charles Moore]

Anchor Paper 6-B

Score Point: 2

The writing is connected to the topic of whether or not students should read more at home but includes loosely related material: “I don’t think you should put articles in about messing with kids lives . . . So, Mr. Editor, think about that article.” Little evidence of an organizational pattern is demonstrated; the response includes an introduction, brief body paragraphs, and an ending. Development of support is inadequate, consisting of three arguments: “kids need time to be themselves,” “kids have plenty of time to read at school,” and “Kids still feel that way,” each with slight extensions: “they only have a few times to be kids after school, homework, and extra-curricular activities,” “Kids have time in class to read,” and “remember when you were a little kid? How you wanted to play with your friends instead of doing homework and reading?” Word choice is limited, and there is little variation in sentence structure.

Anchor Paper 7-A

Children should spend more time reading at home, and every were else they can. Any place you go there is some thing to read. It does not matter what you read as long as you like it. ~~can~~ When you watching T.V., in sted of f licking throw the chnals pick up the T.V. Guid and see whats on. You could go to Burger King and read the meunice to see what you want to eat. You can even read when your in the shower. Take the Shampoo & Condshiner & the Soap, now there is so many things to read there. IF you like skating read about how to do tricks and when your all done reading about it you could accatually do it. Now that you've read so much fun reading all that reading your ready for a real book. Now you can chose a book you really like and take it and read it where ever you like.

Anchor Paper 7-B

Score Point: 3

The writer takes the stand that “Children should spend more time reading at home, and every were else . . .” The writing is generally focused on the topic, and an organizational pattern has been attempted, but the paper lacks a sense of wholeness. One argument, “Any place you go their is some thing to read,” includes several extensions: “pick up the T.V. guid and see whats on,” “go to Burger King and read the meunie,” “Take the Shampoo & Condshiner & the Soap,” and “If you like skating read about how to do tricks. . .” The second argument, “Now that you’ve read so much fun reading . . . you’r ready for a real book,” is slightly extended: “Now you can chose a book you really like and take it and read it where ever you like.” Word choice is adequate but limited. There is little, if any, variation in sentence structure. Knowledge of the conventions of mechanics and usage is usually demonstrated.

Anchor Paper 8-A

Students so spent some time reading the newspaper. Because the newspaper tells tells you that is happening over the world. Other reason why because the news paper tells you things that did happening that date like a deaths, injuries, like if the president has to tell some things that are important to people. Some effect would be by that they mean even like to read the newspaper every day.

I think that at least some students read the newspaper. Reason a new why Because It tells you is happening over the world. Like if some important Jobs and business. So some student would like to get a job they look it up in the newspaper. Or maybe if they are interesting in the weather like is the in the morning, afternoon, and the night.

The Second reason why because maybe the president is talking about some thing important like if they go to war again. And Maybe if some troopes die. So that are some things that would affect student like their mom, father, sister, and ucles die in war that some things that would effect so student.

I think that student should read at least a little every day about newspaper. Maybe there is some things that intering about the newspaper. Maybe it would effect some sadness. Like the people that they show in the article. That are some thing that may or not effect the student. That are some reason why some student should read every do that has happen in this world.

Anchor Paper 8-B

Newspaper are impact for the student's future. That is why think newspaper so be read every day.

Anchor Paper 8-C

Score Point: 3

The writing is generally focused on the topic: "Newspaper are import for the students future. That is why think newspaper so be read every day." An organizational pattern has been attempted and includes an introduction, three basic arguments: "It tells you is happeing over the world," "tell some things that are important," and "Some effect would be by that they mean even like to read," and a brief conclusion. Each argument includes some support, but development is erratic. Word choice is adequate but limited and occasionally vague. Errors occur in sentence structure and basic conventions; however, these errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding.

Anchor Paper 9-A

The effect it would have on students if they read more at home, in my opinion, would be good because it would educate more students, help sell more newspapers or books, people wouldn't get as bored as easily, and because it's fun to do.

My first reason is that students should read more at home because they would be more educated. For example they could read about science or something that's educating, therefore they would learn from reading. Also, reading gives you a greater vocabulary and a better imagination.

My second reason is it would help news paper company's and bookstores around the world sell items, therefore, more and more people have food to put on their table.

My third reason why students should read more is because students wouldn't be getting bored or getting into trouble as much, because they would have something to do. Instead of wasting their time watching T.V.

My last reason on why students should read more is because it's fun and it opens up your imagination. While T.V. just shows you everything and you can't picture anything or guess what's going to happen. Books can take you to so many places. They can bring

Anchor Paper 9-B

out your emotion it can, make you laugh, cry,
it can make you angry, or sad.

These are just some reasons why I
feel students should spend more time reading
at home. You would get an outstanding effect
if more students would spend more time reading.

Anchor Paper 9-C

Score Point: 3

The writer takes the position that “The effect it would have on students if they read more at home, in my opinion, would be good . . .” An organizational pattern has been attempted and consists of an introduction, four body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Some support is included, but development is erratic. Each argument is extended by a few supporting details, with the greatest development of support provided for the “it’s fun and it opens up your imagination” argument: “While T.V. just shows you everything and you can’t picture anything or guess what’s going to happen. Books can take you to so many places. They can bring out your emotion it can, make you laugh, cry, it can make you angry, or sad.” Word choice is adequate, but there is little variation in sentence structure. Knowledge of the conventions of mechanics and usage is usually demonstrated, and commonly used words are usually spelled correctly.

Anchor Paper 10-A

A recent newspaper article said that students should spend more time reading at home. When I read that article I went bizarre. What came to my head was "Aren't students already spending enough time reading at school?" My point of view when I read that article is student should not spend more time reading at home. There are many reasons for students why they shouldn't spend more time reading at home.

First of all, students already spend a lot of time reading at school, why make them read more. If teachers told students to spend more time reading at home, the students will be vexed if they heard that. Some students like to read but they have ambitions to do something else.

Second of all, teachers send home works home for students. Students have to spend time doing their homeworks they are assign to. Usually when students are done with their homeworks, their parents tell them to go to bed. Students must get to sleep early so they can have enough energy to wake up early in the morning to go to school and get an education.

This leads to, the effect why student should spend more time reading at home. Student works really hard at school to get an education. Everybody needs to know that students have also jobs they need to do. Reading more time at home can get tiring.

In Conclusion, the effect of that article made me think "Why are they telling students to spend more time reading at home?" Aren't teachers giving enough work for students to do at home. I think students will be vexed if they sent that article out for students to see "whether or not student should spend more time reading."

Anchor Paper 10-B

Score Point: 4

The writing is generally focused on why students should not spend more time reading at home. An organizational pattern is apparent, and some transitional devices are used effectively. The support, including word choice, is adequate, although development is uneven. More support is provided for the “students already spend alot of time reading at school” and “teachers send home works” arguments, while weaker support is provided for the argument about the effect on students. There is little variation in sentence structure, but most sentences are complete. Convention errors do occur, but they do not interfere with meaning.

Anchor Paper 11-A

Some kids think reading is boring, others think it is fun. Reading can be fun if you read an action book, or a mystery book, or maybe one about aliens. It doesn't matter, as long as you read, and that's what I choose to do and I'm going to tell you why.

I used to read a book called Encyclopedia Brown, a series of books about a young kid who was a great detective & helped solve mysteries with his father, who was a cop. That book always had my mind thinking and I liked that. I also used to read the Lord of the Rings's books. I really liked the movie so I got the book & read that every night before I went to bed. Books about movies have more detail than the movie does so it lets you understand it more. If you like the movie Harry Potter, then get that book because it will help you understand the movie & there might be some things in the book that aren't in the movie.

Another type of good books are books about the past, like during the Iron Age, or the Dinosaur Age. The books about the time when there were castles, and swords, and bows would be exciting because there would be a lot of wars where people would get killed and you would learn about how people made a living and lived. You can also learn how the world developed to be what it is today. If you read about the time when dinosaurs lived it would be interesting and you would be learning. You could learn all the types of families of animals and the ancestors of the animals we have today.

So it doesn't matter what you read or when, just pick up a book and read.

Anchor Paper 11-B

Score Point: 4

The writer is in favor of reading and summarizes this position in the conclusion: “So it doesn’t matter what you read or when, just pick up a book and read.” An organizational pattern is apparent, helping to provide some sense of completeness to the response. Development of support, including word choice, is adequate. Some specific support is presented in each argument: “Reading can be fun if you read an action book, or a mystery book, or maybe one about aliens . . . I used to read a book called Encyclopedia Brown, a series of books about a young kid who was a great detective & helped solve myteries with his father, who was a cop. . . The books about the time when there were castles, and swords, and bows would be exciting because there would be alot of wars where people would get killed.” There is little variation in sentence structure, and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 12-A

Dear [S__O__],

I read your article in the News Journal. I believe that it was a very strong article. It's true, students should spend more time reading at home. It would probably have a firm effect on students. However, it does have its flaws.

For students to spend more time reading at home would surely have students more open minded to many things. The books children are reading today have so many topics they don't know about. There are cultural topics, topics of law, and more. The books can teach the students about these topics and give new information on what they know.

Reading more at home is not only smarter but if you read before school, it would get their brain started for the day ahead. It would also limit the time they spend on video games and TV. Some books might inspire a student to start a book club. If another member in their family enjoys to read, it could help a relationship in a family.

[S__], though your article was inspiring, some might have other opinions. Students have homework they need to get done. Some children have not enjoyed the books they have read in the past and don't like reading. Children come home from school, completing homework and chores and now reading. It's like the old saying, "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

Anchor Paper 12-B

Mr. [O—], I enjoyed reading your article. It was powerful and inspiring. I'm shure that many parents thank you for what you have done. And I bet many students hate you right now. Perhaps you could use some of my ideas in your next article. Thank you for redding my letter.

[Richard Hall]

Anchor Paper 12-C

Score Point: 4

The response is generally focused on the idea that “students should spend more time reading at home.” The writer argues that “It would probably have tirmendice affect on students” but also acknowledges “it dose have its flaws.” The organizational pattern is apparent, and the response exhibits some sense of completeness. The support, including word choice, is adequate, although development is uneven, and the writer presents more elaborated details in favor of, rather than against, reading at home. There is little variation in sentence structure, but the conventions of mechanics and usage are generally followed.

Anchor Paper 13-A

Dear Editor,

I disagree with your article. I don't think students should spend more time reading. They could if they wanted to, but I don't think the issue should be pushed on them.

My first source of reasoning is if every child stayed home reading a lot of people would be out of a job. I say that because most jobs are especially made to entertain children. Toy companies would go out of business, after school activities would be canceled, every thing would go berserk. Starting to see my point yet?

My second source of reasoning is all of those kids would be fat, lazy bookworms with no activity. That's right, nothing but their precious books. They'd have no lives. Finally when the parents try to take the book away they'd say, "No give that back, I'm not finished with it!"

Still not convinced?

I'd hate to bring this up, but... when all of this happens who will the people blame for their children's behavior? "It's all that editor's fault! Everyone knows that parents are gullible and impressionable!" Which is very true, especially when it comes to educational purposes.

So my friend, think before you write. Parents are gullible and impressionable. That's

Anchor Paper 13-B

why you should watch what you write. Parents are suckers for their children's education and they will take drastic measures (like taking away the tv.) to make their kids smarter.

Sincerely,

[Lucy Stone]

Anchor Paper 13-C

Score Point: 5

This writer takes the position that students should not spend more time reading. The organizational pattern includes effective transitional devices, provides for a progression of ideas, and conveys a sense of completeness. The response demonstrates a mature command of language enhanced through precision in word choice: “fat, lazy bookworms” and “gullible and impressionable,” and use of rhetorical questions: “Starting to see my point yet?” and “who will the people blame for their childrens’ behavior?” There is variation in sentence structure, and sentences are complete except when fragments are used purposefully: “Still not convinced?” The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 14-A

Once upon a time! Have you ever heard or read that before. It's from a book of knowledge. I think that it is very good for student's to read at home. First, It will brighten up the Students or should I say make the smarter, brilliant, and Intelligent. They would sooner or later be as smart as Albert Einstein. After that, reading could help students with there english fluency. Finally, reading will help students do better on the FCAT.

In the begining, if you want to be smarter, then reading is your solution. It will give you more knowledge about the world and it's people. For example, one time I thought Ghandi never ate meat but when I read a biography on him I then knew he did eat meat once. It will also make you smarter in reading. You will be able to read a lot better. Finally, you would know a lot of big words so you could be put in a spelling bee as one of the coaches and tell everyone the definition of a word, without looking at the sheet!

After that, if you are not very fluent in english reading is your best solution. Reading will help you speak english better. Like everyone always tells me Read it, Write it, Speak it. Also, reading will make everything you say or Write more understandable. Finally, if you are a New comer, reading will help you learn english the easy way.

Anchor Paper 14-B

Last but not least, FCAT has a lot to do with reading. So Read! If you read at home then you would be able to read on the FCAT. Plus, you would be able to understand stories better. Finally, reading at home will make you better at understanding the stories, which would make you faster to answer questions.

In retrospect, reading is the best solution to make you smarter, to make your English more fluent, and to help you with the FCAT. So please Mr. editor or Mrs. editor allow us to read at home. It is highly beneficial to us. Reading is the key to success.

Anchor Paper 14-C

Score Point: 5

The writer thinks that “it is very good for student’s to read at home” because “it will . . . make you smarter,” “could help students with there english fluency,” and “will help students do better on the FCAT.” An organizational pattern includes effective transitional devices, provides for a progression of ideas, and conveys a sense of completeness. The writing demonstrates a mature command of language enhanced through precision in word choice: “if you are a newcomer” and “In Retrospect,” intentional fragments: “So Read!,” a simile: “They would sooner or later be as smart as Albert Einstein,” use of rhetorical questions: “Have you ever heard or read that before,” a specific example: “I thought Ghandi never ate meat but when I read a biography on him I then knew he did eat meat once,” and a plea to the audience: “So please Mr. editor or Mrs. editor allow us to read at home.” There is variation in sentence structure, and the paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 15-A

Reading at home. A student's worst nightmare. Parents have heard "I don't want to" from their kids, but the parents and school always have the kids held down reading books. Yes I know books can be funny and entertaining sometimes, but teachers make students read dull topics. I mean who wants to read To Kill A Mockingbird oh yeah it won a Nobel Prize, but have you ever met a fifteen-year-old who's read that. Why can't we read what we want to. I mean, well here are a few examples. Harry Potter, Redwall, and Calvin and Hobbes are excellent books to read and pass time.

The first step of the fight against getting kids ^{to read} at home is comic books. Yes comics have long been a kid's favorite. I think that if students have to read at home comic books should be allowed. The only requirements should be: 1- The book must have thirty or more pages. 2- No cursing. 3- Has to be funny. Comics are great ways to make kids read. Like if you let me go with Fartrot for a day I would come back blue in the face from laughing. Comic books should be allowed to read at school and for reading logs. A comic book would be a whole lot better than Moby Dick.

Anchor Paper 15-B

My second topic will consist of novels. If you can convince a kid to read a novel you're a good parent and/or teacher. There are some really good novels out there though. If the kid likes Fantasy give them J.R.R. Tolkien's Lord of the Rings. If you can get them to read good solid novels you're on the right track. On this step of the program don't push your kids into classics and "ligh" poetry. Just wait.

After novels your kid should progress to reading long series of novels. A Series of Unfortunate Events is a great one to read. Push the kid into reading what kind of book their into in a series of them. Once you have completed this let your child read what they want (in their limits). Then you'll have a kid who'll want to read.

Reading this myself I see I'm for and against reading at home. A student should have the option of reading, but still must read twice a week. If you do that and read good books you'll enjoy your life with literature and books. That's the end of the program now go read a good book.

Anchor Paper 15-C

Score Point: 5

This response focuses on the topic by developing arguments both “for and against reading at home.” The organizational pattern includes effective transitional devices and provides for a progression of ideas. The paper has ample support and conveys a sense of completeness. The writing demonstrates a mature command of language including precision in word choice: “I would come back blue in the face from laughing” and “don’t push your kids into classics and ‘ughh’ poetry,” purposeful fragments: “Reading at home. A students worst nightmare,” as well as rhetorical questions: “I mean who wants to read To Kill A Mockingbird . . . Why can’t we read what we want to.” There is variation in sentence structure, and sentences are complete. The paper generally follows the conventions of mechanics, usage, and spelling.

Anchor Paper 16-A

I think in my opinion, that this author is down right crazy. I mean, come on what are we going to read? How is this going to help us in life? But most of all, we'll have less time to play with. Well, I'll let you listen to my opinion and you tell me what you think.

Read, read, read, that's all we do at school, is read. So why do we need to spend more time at home reading. And even if they made a law or a requirement to read at home, what are we going to read? Some adults need to understand that some of us don't like to read. It's not that we can't read, we just don't want to. I'm not saying that we have boring books, we have good ones, like 'The Hardy Boys' and 'Harry Potter', but some of us have already read those books and don't want to re-read it because only you and a few other concerned teachers want us to. Besides, personally, I don't think reading at home will help us in life.

Which brings me to my next point. How is reading at home, going to help us in life? Hey, if we know how to read, what's the point of teachers and other people telling us "You should read some fiction and non-fiction books, they will help you in life..." I wonder, what's wrong there? Fiction is Fantasy, how is reading fantasy going to help us? And non-fiction, those are the most boring books. I know I don't want to read about some guy who got kidnapped in 1817 and never was found, or about some stupid biography about someone, or read about History, it's not like we're going to get offered a chance to answer a question about a book, and get 1 billion dollars. It's a waste of time...

Which is my last point. It's a waste of time! Some of us actually have friends and after-school activities we want to do. Like go to the mall, or go to the beach, or go to Martial Arts and learn things. There are a lot of things you can do after school, and still learn, like Martial Arts, you learn about Yin and Yang, peace, loyalty, trust, where Martial Arts originated from, and stuff like that, you don't have to read to learn you know. Or you can go

Anchor Paper 16-B

to the movies and watch a movie based on a true story to learn, like 'Pearl Harbor', or 'Saving Private Ryan', stuff like that, or watch a play in New York about 'Romeo and Juliet'. But to read at home, just to find out good details about something, is a waste of time. For that you can go online and Google search it, in a summarized version.

So, please don't make us do more work than we have to do, that's why we have school. I'm sorry, but I wouldn't know what to read, I do know that reading after-school is not going to help in life, if we already know how to read, and I definitely know for a fact that it is a waste a time. I know this is my opinion, but there are other people who share my some exact beliefs. So please, take my opinion in to consideration.

Anchor Paper 16-C

Score Point: 6

This response focuses on the opinion that “this author is down right crazy” and presents insightful arguments on why students should not have to read at home. The paper conveys a sense of completeness and adherence to the main ideas: “I wouldn’t know what to read,” “I don’t think reading at home will help us in life,” and “It’s a waste of time.” The organizational plan, with some effective transitional devices, provides for a logical progression of the arguments. The support is substantial and includes specific details: “like ‘The Hardy Boys’ and ‘Harry Potter,’” “go to Martial Arts and learn . . . about Yin and Yang, peace, loyalty, trust,” and “watch a movie . . . like ‘Pearl Harbor,’ or ‘Saving Private Ryan’ . . . watch a play in New York about ‘Romeo and Juliet’.” The writer uses creative writing strategies appropriate to the purpose of the paper: intentional repetition, rhetorical questions, a quotation, and a plea to the reader. The writing demonstrates a mature command of language with freshness of expression: “I know I don’t want to read about some guy who got kidnapped in 1817 . . . it’s not like we’re going to get offered a chance to answer a question about a book, and get 1 billion dollars.” Sentence structure is varied, and sentences are complete. Few, if any, convention errors occur in mechanics, usage, and punctuation.

Anchor Paper 17-A

To Mr. [Davis] local Editor of [Cedar Tree] Newspaper.
Mr. [Davis], it is my understanding that you wrote an article last week about students spending more time reading at home. I can't tell you how right you are. As an English teacher myself, I know how important it is that children read at home. I also believe that it is the parents, students, and teachers job to ensure that students read often partly because of these reasons, The students are able to expand their vocabulary and better comprehend the text. They'll get a better grade in English. (I often assign reading a novel as a long-term project and it normally counts as 25% of their grade) And they experience the joys of a good book. Please read on as I explain these beliefs.

As you know, most children have a fairly simple vocabulary. Many of these students also have a hard time comprehending because their vocabulary holds them back. If a student would spend even just a little bit more time reading at home, no more than 45 minutes even, they could greatly improve their vocabulary and comprehension by seeing first hand through their own eyes different methods of expressing the main idea and different words to add to their growing minds.

Being an English teacher, I greatly know how important reading is to their grades. By now, they are in the eighth grade and for homework, I don't send home Dick and Jane or See Spot Run. No, I assign

Anchor Paper 17-B

them. Novels such as, A Day No Pigs would Die, The Land, and The Hobbit / Lord of The Rings trilogy. So it's very important that they read these. I don't expect them to do it in one night, for Heavens sake, no, I assign them one book every month and expect a good report back, typed. I count these assignments as 25% of their grade. So to help you understand better if they didn't do this but got a 100/A on everything else, the highest their grade could be is a 75/C. So, as you see reading is very important in my class!

I also believe that reading is important because reading opens so many doors to learning and imagination. Not only could they be enjoying an interesting story on King Tut but they could also be learning about pyramids and tomb robbers as well! Whereas if they're playing X-Box™ they're just learning how to jump & hold by pushing ↑ and "A".

I very much appreciated your article on reading importance. And now you realize that I share many of the same views as you. If you would like to further discuss our views on the subject please call or E-mail me at:

[(123)456-7890] or at my office: [(987)654-3210]

Email: [S ___]@phoo.com Sincerely

[Mrs. Sandra Dee]

Anchor Paper 17-C

Score Point: 6

Written from the perspective of a teacher, this response is focused on “how important it is that children read at home.” The paper conveys a sense of completeness and adherence to the main idea, and its organizational pattern provides a logical progression of ideas. The support is substantial and demonstrates a commitment to and an involvement with the subject: “Being an English teacher, I greatly know how important reading is to their grades” and “I often assign reading a novel as a long-term project.” The writing demonstrates a mature command of language with freshness of expression: “they could greatly improve their vocabulary and comprehension by seeing first hand through their own eyes different methods of expressing the main idea and different words to add to their growing minds,” “I don’t send home Dick and Jane or See Spot Run. No! I assign them Novels such as A Day No Pigs Would Die, The Land, and The Hobbit/Lord of The Rings; trilogy,” “I don’t expect them to do it in one night, for Heavens sake,” and “they’re just learning how to jump & hold by pushing ‘↑’ and ‘A’.” Sentence structure is varied, and few convention errors occur in mechanics, usage, and punctuation.

Anchor Paper 18-A

Picture this: you're sitting on the couch with the foot rest up and recliner back, eating a bag of sour cream and onion chips with the t.v. on. Television does nothing good for you, opposed to reading, which can be very useful in many ways. Reading can make you smarter and can help you read faster if you do it as a daily routine, and of course, it can be a lot of fun, too.

Reading can help you get smarter, so you should spend more time flipping through those pages at home. You could learn hundreds of new things just from one small little book of brains. You want to be smart don't you? You could get into a better college, get a better job, and all around have a better life just by spending more time reading at home. Just about 95% of the wealthy happy people say that they try to read at least 45 minutes a day. In my 8th grade class at [Sunshine] Middle school, in my gifted reading class, the kids that are the smartest are the ones that spend their spare time reading at home. They can read fluently without a breaky voice, too. I'm not saying to sit at home reading for hours and hours at a time, just about an hour a day, unless of course, you want to because the book is just so juiced up with excitement that you have to find out what happens next.

Reading can be as fun as racing down the water slide in the log at a verticle angle on Dudley Doorright at Islands of Adventure. When most people see a book, they say "Oh great". That's what I think too before

Anchor Paper 18-B

I can even get into the book. Once I start reading, usually, you can't get me to stop. "Don't judge a book by its cover." So start reading and you'll probably not want to stop because it's such an excellent book. According to the latest poll taken by Scope Magazine, only 3% surveyed said that most books they've read are boring, while the other 97% said that books can be so fun to read if you just give it some time. Last month I was reading The Giver. Best book I've ever read, and trust me, I've read a lot! Anyway, I would always be asking my mom "Will you bring my book The Giver when you come to pick me up from gymnastics?" Books can be so fun to read once you get into them.

Reading can help you get smarter and can be so much fun. It is more useful than something like t.v. any day. Unlike school, you can get smarter while having fun by reading. I agree that all students should spend more time reading at home for those reasons. "So get up and go read 'o'!"

Anchor Paper 18-C

Score Point: 6

This writer clearly focuses on the position that students should spend more time reading at home. The organizational plan includes effective transitioning that provides a logical progression of ideas. The paper conveys a sense of wholeness and adherence to the main ideas: “Reading can help you get smarter and can be so much fun.” Support is concrete and illustrative, with freshness of expression: “you should spend more time flippen’ through those pages,” “read fluently without a breaky voice,” and “Best book I’ve ever read, and trust me, I’ve read a lot!” The writing demonstrates a mature command of language, using creative strategies appropriate to the purpose of the paper, such as a vivid narrative introduction, rhetorical questions, personal anecdotes, surveys, quotations, a simile, and percentages, all of which involve the reader and enhance the writer’s point of view. Sentence structure is varied and complete, and few errors in the conventions of mechanics, usage, and punctuation are evident in this response.