

Florida

Standards Assessments

GRADE 8

2015 FSA ELA WRITING

SCORING SAMPLER

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INTRODUCTION

The Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) Writing Scoring Sampler can be used as a resource for Florida educators, schools, and districts regarding the scoring of student responses on the writing component of the statewide ELA assessments. Each spring, students in grades 4–10 are administered a passage set and a text-based writing prompt for the FSA ELA Writing test. Students respond either to an informative/explanatory prompt or to an opinion/argumentation prompt. Unlike the types of writing prompts administered on statewide writing assessments in the past, the FSA prompts are text dependent—based on the passage set each student is provided—which focuses on a specific purpose for writing. Students draw on reading and writing skills while integrating information from the passage set in order to develop and draft a cohesive essay response.

This sampler contains sample student responses that illustrate the score points described in the applicable scoring rubric; the passage (text) set and text-based writing prompt can be accessed via a hyperlink provided on the next page. As with all FSA content, the sample passage set and prompt were reviewed by a committee of Florida educators to ensure appropriateness for the intended grade in terms of the text complexity, topic, and wording.

In this sampler, examples of student responses represent some of the various combinations of the score points across the scoring domains. As a basis for developing a common understanding of the scoring criteria, an annotation follows the response to explain the prominent characteristics of the response described in the rubric. These responses are not intended to provide a full spectrum of examples for each score point in each domain. Moreover, they do not necessarily represent the highest or lowest example of each score point in each domain.

It should be noted that in addition to responses that receive the scores described in the rubric for each domain, some responses earn a score of “0” due to certain conditions as follows:

- The entire response is written in a language other than English.
- The response is illegible, is incomprehensible, includes an insufficient amount of writing to be evaluated, or is completely copied from the source material with no original work.
- The response is completely off topic, and the Conventions domain is scored; this condition could result in a score of 0, 1, or 2 points.

Because a response that is left completely blank does not meet attemptedness criteria for FSA ELA Writing, no score can be earned or reported for the combined Reading/Writing components that the FSA ELA test comprises.

To access additional resources related to the ELA assessments, please visit the Florida Standards Assessments portal at fsassessments.org/resources/.

The Florida Standards in English Language Arts (Writing Strand) describe what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. For more information about the Florida Standards, please visit CPALMS at www.cpalms.org/Public/search/Standard.

TEXT-BASED WRITING SOURCES

To offer students a variety of texts on the FSA ELA Writing tests, authentic and copyrighted passages and articles appear as they were originally published, as requested by the publisher and/or author. While these real-world examples do not always adhere to strict style conventions and/or grammar rules, inconsistencies among passages should not detract from students' ability to understand and respond to the text-based writing task.

To view the passage set "Machu Picchu," click <https://scoringguides.airast.org>.

INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY TEXT-BASED WRITING RUBRIC

Grades 6–10 Informative/Explanatory Text-based Writing Rubric (Score points within each domain include most of the characteristics below.)			
Score	Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
4	<p>The response is fully sustained and consistently focused within the purpose, audience, and task; and it has a clear controlling idea and effective organizational structure creating coherence and completeness. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strongly maintained controlling idea with little or no loosely related material • Skillful use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas • Logical progression of ideas from beginning to end with a satisfying introduction and conclusion • Appropriate style and objective tone established and maintained 	<p>The response provides thorough and convincing support, citing evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoothly integrated, thorough, and relevant evidence, including precise references to sources • Effective use of a variety of elaborative techniques (including but not limited to definitions, quotations, and examples), demonstrating an understanding of the topic and text • Clear and effective expression of ideas, using precise language • Academic and domain-specific vocabulary clearly appropriate for the audience and purpose • Varied sentence structure, demonstrating language facility 	
3	<p>The response is adequately sustained and generally focused within the purpose, audience, and task; and it has a clear controlling idea and evident organizational structure with a sense of completeness. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained controlling idea, though some loosely related material may be present • Adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas • Adequate progression of ideas from beginning to end with a sufficient introduction and conclusion • Appropriate style and objective tone established 	<p>The response provides adequate support, citing evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes the use of sources, facts, and details. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally integrated and relevant evidence from sources, though references may be general or imprecise • Adequate use of some elaborative techniques • Adequate expression of ideas, employing a mix of precise and general language • Domain-specific vocabulary generally appropriate for the audience and purpose • Some variation in sentence structure 	

Continued on the following page

Grades 6–10 Informative/Explanatory Text-based Writing Rubric (Score points within each domain include most of the characteristics below.)			
Score	Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
2	<p>The response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task but may include loosely related or extraneous material; and it may have a controlling idea with an inconsistent organizational structure. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused controlling idea but insufficiently sustained or unclear • Inconsistent use of transitional strategies with little variety • Uneven progression of ideas from beginning to end with an inadequate introduction or conclusion 	<p>The response provides uneven, cursory support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes partial use of sources, facts, and details. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weakly integrated evidence from sources; erratic or irrelevant references or citations • Repetitive or ineffective use of elaborative techniques • Imprecise or simplistic expression of ideas • Some use of inappropriate domain-specific vocabulary • Most sentences limited to simple constructions 	<p>The response demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some minor errors in usage but no patterns of errors • Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling
1	<p>The response is related to the topic but may demonstrate little or no awareness of the purpose, audience, and task; and it may have little or no controlling idea or discernible organizational structure. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confusing or ambiguous ideas • Few or no transitional strategies • Frequent extraneous ideas that impede understanding • Too brief to demonstrate knowledge of focus or organization 	<p>The response provides minimal support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea, including little if any use of sources, facts, and details. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal, absent, erroneous, or irrelevant evidence or citations from the source material • Expression of ideas that is vague, unclear, or confusing • Limited and often inappropriate language or domain-specific vocabulary • Sentences limited to simple constructions 	<p>The response demonstrates a partial command of basic conventions. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various errors in usage • Inconsistent use of correct punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling
0			<p>The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions, with frequent and severe errors often obscuring meaning.</p>

An ancient stone city hidden away in the massive Andes Mountains. A city that hold countless secrets and endless beauty. This is the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu is a very popular tourist attraction, but many tourists do not know its true significance. This “city in the clouds” is of high importance because it not only is considered an archeological wonder but it is also very important to nature and has much historical and cultural significance.

Huge stones make up Machu Picchu, some even weighing 10-15 tons (“The Stones of Machu Picchu” by Duane Damon). Lifting stones that heavy sounds like a near impossible feat, yet evidence of this great task is shown in the city’s stunning architecture. The architecture is so great because of its complexity. The city was built on a strict plan causing it to be divided into two parts: an upper residential area and a lower agricultural area. These two parts are divided by a huge mysterious square. However, this was not the only division in the town; many very different quarters were discovered at the site, a farming quarter, an industrial quarter, a royal quarter and a religious quarter. The farming quarters are near gigantic terraces with hanging gardens miraculously built upon their slopes. Including the quarters the city is made up of more than 200 different structure. One of these structures, called “*La Ciudadela*”, which translates to “the citadel”, is one of, if not the most, astounding architectural pieces in the city. It was built 7,800 feet above sea level and is a monument at the heart of the city. The ancient city also is one of the best examples of superb architecture made out of raw materials that completely matches the surrounding. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recognized the beauty of Machu Picchu by stating that it is “...among the greatest artistic, architectural and land use achievements anywhere...” (“Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu”; whc.unesco.org).

Machu Picchu is best known for its architecture and its beautiful mountain scenery; however, it is also very important to nature. Within the city’s property live countless species of flora and fauna. This is because the city, which is built in a tropical mountain forest, has become a safe habitat for these species, of which many are endangered. For example, a very interesting animal known as a spectacled bear lives within the property. Other animals that live in this ecosystem are the dwarf brocket, otter, ocelot, pampas cat, boa, Andean condor, Andean cock of the rock, and long-tailed weasel. These are just a few of the many species that thrive near Machu Picchu. Another reason why so many animals live there is due to the fact that the city is very near to the upper Amazon basin, an area well known for having a hugely diverse set of plants and animals. To help protect these species a buffer zone has been agreed on as to allow for no harm to come to these fascinating creatures.

UNESCO has called Machu Picchu “...a property which forms part of Peru’s very identity...” (“Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu”; whc.unesco.org). They refer

to it as this because of the fact that this ancient city is a very intergral part to Peru's rich culture and history. Its story begins with its construction in the 15th century. It was constructed during the rule of "the two great Incas", Pachacutec Inca Yupanqui, who ruled from 1438 through 1471, and Tupac Inca Yuanqui, who ruled from 1472 to 1493. Eventually in the sixteenth century spaniards invaded, chasing the Inca out. Centuries later in 1911 an explorer named Hiram Bingham rediscovered the city during his search for Vilcabamba, the last Inca capital ("The Stones of Machu Picchu" by Duane Damon). He would eventually return to the ruins to search for artifacts. Bingham would die with more questions than answers. However, since then few questions have been answered and more have been speculated. The ruins are shrouded in mysteries, for example, the giant square seperating the upper and lower parts of the city was speculated as being an area at which the Inca would research the stars... or research plants, it is still unknown if either of these theories are true. How did the Inca move the huge stones? Why was the city built? These are both unanswered questions of Machu Picchu. Another quote by UNESCO states that "Machu Pucchu is one of the most important cultural sites in Latin America" ("Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu"; whc.unesco.org). This culture is shown all over the ancient city ranging from architecture to its history to soley its existence. Peru realized this and formed the Management Unit of the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (UGM) in 1999. The UGM aims to protect and manage the ruins that preserve such rich history and to keep its culture intact.

Machu Picchu is a great tourist destination anyone with an interest in architecture, nature, or history/culture must go. It immerses you in the lifestyle of the ancient Incas and even helps fund protection for this world wonder. However, be cautious because tourists also cause huge cultural and ecological impacts at this historic site. Hopefully one day everyone will recognize the immense signifigance of the "city in the clouds" and not just its famous name.

4-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response is fully sustained and consistently focused within the purpose, audience, and task. The satisfying introduction includes a clear controlling idea (*This “city in the clouds” is of high importance because it not only is considered an archeological wonder but it is also very important to nature and has much historical and cultural significance*). An effective organizational structure is combined with a skillful transitional strategy (*Lifting stones that heavy sounds like a near impossible feat, yet evidence of this great task; Machu Picchu is best known for its architecture and its beautiful mountain scenery; however, it is also very important to nature*). The logical progression of ideas from beginning to end gives the response fluidity and a sense of completeness.

4-Evidence/Elaboration

The response provides thorough and convincing support, citing evidence for the controlling idea. Strong language facility is used throughout the paper. Evidence from the source material is smoothly integrated and relevant, which provides a clear expression of ideas (*These two parts are divided by a huge mysterious square, many very different quarters were discovered at the site, farming quarters are near gigantic terraces with hanging gardens miraculously built upon their slopes*). The response effectively uses academic and domain-specific vocabulary (*The ruins are shrouded in mysteries, for example, the giant square seperating the upper and lower parts of the city*). Effective elaboration combined with citation demonstrates an understanding of the source material.

2-Conventions

Although a few errors occur, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated in this draft response.

S1

00060122

Nestled between the Andes and Amazon Basin is a historical site like no other. Built in the 15th century and conquered by the Spaniards in the 16th century Machu Picchu was trapped in time until the early 1900s, when it was discovered again. Sitting at more than 7,800 feet above sea level it is surrounded by mountain slopes, peaks and valleys. Machu Picchu is the last known Inca stronghold, and it provides a glimpse of the life many Inca's experienced during the 15th century. The breath-taking cultural site is one of the most significant and prized travel destinations in the world.

The construction of Machu Picchu was set out to a rigorous plan and according to *Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu* by UNESCO it "comprises one of the most spectacular creations of the Inca empire." Several individual quarters may be noted in the ruins including hanging gardens and a 'royal' quarter. The building layouts of Machu Picchu provide a glimpse for visitors today to see what the construction and architecture was like in the 15th century Inca empire. All of its giant walls, terraces, and ramps seem to be cut naturally from rock escarpments. *The Stones of Machu Picchu* by Duane Damon stated that the larger stones of the granite building blocks appeared to weigh 10-15 tons! Every stone was also carefully cut and "exquisitely fitted together." The use of natural raw materials to provide architecture is said to be one of the world's greatest examples. It's no wonder why all kinds of people flock to Machu Picchu to examine the spectacular architecture.

The Stones of Machu Picchu claims that Machu Picchu is one of the world's great archaeological wonders. Not only does it contain spectacular architecture but the natural setting of Machu Picchu also encompasses its unique environmental habitats for plenty of unique animal species and rich diversity of flora and fauna. *Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu* by UNESCO says Machu Picchu is in some of the scenically most attractive mountainous territory of the Peruvian Andes. The surrounding valleys have cultivated exceptionally well for over 1,000 years and some of the habitats give homes to endangered species. Several of them include the spectacled bear, the dwarf brocket, and the Andean condor. When the ruins were first discovered again in 1911 by Hiram Bingham he described them as "covered with trees and moss, the growth of centuries", as told by Duane Damon in *The Stones of Machu Picchu*.

Machu Picchu also contains many historical artifacts. Inca graves, stone dishes and several bronze implements were discovered, as stated in *The Stones of Machu Picchu*. The site contains many major historical and cultural influences and some of the people who live around Machu Picchu continue a way of life that resemble their Inca ancestors, being based on potatoes, maize, and llamas. Although Machu Picchu has stood for a long time, safety and sanitary issues for travelers and visitors have started to emerge. However, don't fret because high quality and new

long-term solutions are being built for the natural wonders. Machu Picchu is a very unique sight not only for its educational value, but also for its condition.

Machu Picchu is a very significant travel destination for many reasons which include its historical significance, amazing structures, and spectacular environmental sights. Located in a breathtaking natural setting, the city's beauty comes from its amazing architecture and mountaintop views. Visitors from all over the world flock to the "city of the clouds" every year to get a glimpse of history uncovered. They look, reflect and wonder about many of the unanswered questions surrounding Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu gives the modern generations a look back to a time like no other and the experience is sure to last a lifetime.

4-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response begins with a satisfying introduction that presents the controlling idea (*Nestled between the Andes and Amazon Basin is a historical site like no other; The breath-taking cultural site is one of the most significant and prized travel destinations in the world*). An effective organizational structure creates coherence and completeness. The body paragraphs build on one another through the effective use of transitions (*Not only does it contain spectacular architecture but the natural setting of Machu Picchu also encompasses its unique environmental habitats for plenty of unique animal species and rich diversity of flora and fauna*). The controlling idea is focused and sustained throughout, and the satisfying conclusion provides a sense of completeness (*Machu Picchu is a very significant travel destination for many reasons which include its historical significance, amazing structures, and spectacular environmental sights*).

4-Evidence/Elaboration

The response provides thorough and convincing support, citing evidence for the controlling idea. Effective use of information from the source material is smoothly integrated and relevant (*The construction of Machu Picchu was set out to a rigorous plan; The surrounding valleys have cultivated exceptionally well for over 1,000 years; The site contains many major historical and cultural influences*). Effective use of elaboration demonstrates an understanding of the source material (*Although Machu Picchu has stood for a long time, safety and sanitary issues for travelers and visitors have started to emerge*). Expression of ideas is clear and effective with appropriate use of domain-specific vocabulary present throughout the response.

2-Conventions

Although a few errors occur, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated in this draft response.

Machu Picchu is one of the world's greatest historical sites to visit. From its rich landscape to the architectural achievements that the Inca accomplished, Machu Picchu is a fantastic tourist attraction for tourists and historians alike. Its rich wildlife to its beautiful scenery, Machu Picchu is one of the most amazing places in Peru and perhaps the world.

The architectural achievements made by the Inca people are a site to behold just by itself. The buildings, the placements of homes and farms, and the landscape in which Machu Picchu is located is amazing. Located in the eastern jungles of Peru, this lost city shows the many accomplishments the Inca people made in this great city. The buildings all served a purpose and were all categorized depending on which piece of land they were located. The Inca people made many advancements in agriculture, growing many wild plants and vegetables, and some of their descendants to this day stay true to this means of food.

The city of Machu Picchu has one the most breath-taking scenerys found anywhere in the world. From Machu Picchu, you can see the Peru mountains all surrounding you as you sit 2,430 m above sea level. The jungle can also be seen from the standpoint of Machu Picchu, where all the wildlife mainly reside. Machu Picchu is home to many endangered animals such as the spectacled bear, ocelots,boas, and many more interesting and rare species of animals. Machu Picchu can be considered one one the most beautiful places in the world, along with its rich wildlife it lives alongside.

But the buildings are the most fascinating part of Machu Picchu. From homes buildings towering over the great city to maps for future construction, the city was one of the greatest archeological finds in the world. The Inca city contained 3-sided temples, and buildings such as the *El Torreon*- a semicircular tower, the *intihuatana*, or "hitching post of the sun", and many unique and beautiful building. There laid around white stone building blocks weighing 10 to 15 tons cut and ready to be used for building. The many unique buildings and landscapes makes Machu Picchu one of the most amazing architectural finds in the world.

Machu Picchu also carries many questions when it comes to its buildings and how they were made. Many of the stone blocks weighed 10 to 15 tons each, and they made many buildings using these very blocks. This means that all the buildings were made by hand and large, heavy stone blocks were made into buildings and were stacked on top of each other using only the manpower of the Inca people. This is a astounding to think of because the Inca people did not have the advanced technology we have today and all they had accessible to them was manual labor. And there many buildings in Machu Picchu, which makes it more fascinating to think of the time and effort it took the beautiful city that is Machu Picchu.

In all, the lost city of Machu Picchu is one of the most amazing places on Earth. The achievements the Inca people made, the landscape, the history. Everything

S-3

Score Point 4/2/2

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about Machu Picchu is breath-taking and amazing. It is a fantastic place to visit and learn more about the Inca people and rich history and the achievements they made at Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu is a astounding historical and architectural site and is a must see if you are interested in the Inca people and the area surrounding Machu Picchu. It is also a great tourist spot for its beautiful scenery and rich wildlife.

4-Purpose/Focus/Elaboration

The response is fully sustained and consistently focused within the purpose, audience, and task. The satisfying introduction includes the controlling idea (*Machu Picchu is one of the most amazing places in Peru and perhaps the world*). An effective organizational structure creates coherence and completeness. The body paragraphs support the organizational structure. The skillful use of transitions create clear relationships between ideas (*But the buildings are the most fascinating, Machu Picchu also carries, The jungle can also be seen, This is a astounding to think of*). The internal organization of the paragraphs is effective, as the response uses a logical progression of ideas to give fluidity to the paper (*The Inca people made many advancements in agriculture, growing many wild plants and vegetables, and some of thier descendants to this day stay true to this means of food*). A satisfying conclusion reinforces the controlling idea (*Machu Picchu is a astounding historical and architectural site and is a must see*).

2-Evidence/Elaboration

The response provides thorough and convincing support for the controlling idea. The language facility of the response adds to the effective elaboration demonstrating an understanding of the source material (*From it's rich landscape to the architectural achievements that the Inca accomplished, Machu Picchu is one of the most amazing places in Peru and perhaps the world*). The response contains thorough and relevant evidence to support the controlling idea and all points made in the essay (*The city of Machu Picchu has one the most breath-taking scenerys; Peru mountains all surrounding you; The jungle can also be seen; Machu Picchu can be considered one one the most beautiful places in the world, along with its rich wildlife it lives alongside*). The integration of relevant evidence from the source material, along with language facility, helps to facilitate a precise expression of ideas (*Many of the stone blocks weighed 10 to 15 tons, This is a astounding to think of because the Inca people did not have the advanced technology we have today and all they had accessable to them was manual labor*). The response clearly demonstrates an understanding of the source material; however, without a citation in a text-based writing task, the highest score a response may receive in Evidence and Elaboration is a 2.

2-Conventions

Although a few errors occur, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated in this draft response.

Imagine visiting one of the seven wonders of the world, feeling the cool breeze from the top of the mountains while staring at one of the most beautiful historical sites in the world. Machu Picchu is one of the seven wonders of the world and it is an amazing place to visit. Machu Picchu is a great travel destination because of the beautiful scenery and setting of the mountains. It is also a great travel destination because of the historical architectural design and the unknown mysteries of Machu Picchu. The last reason why Machu Picchu is a great travel destination is because it has a wide range of history and historical sites there.

Machu Picchu is an amazing travel destination because of the beautiful scenery and the setting. According to source 1, *The Stones of Machu Picchu*, Machu Picchu is “one of the world’s greatest archaeological wonders” and has a “breathtaking natural setting”. Also according to the article, Machu Picchu lies on the high peaks of the Andes Mountains which are located in Peru, South America. There are indeed many breathtaking sites in Machu Picchu from the historical style of architecture of the old buildings to the amazing views from the mountain tops. Machu Picchu has a great setting and is one of the best travel destinations.

Machu Picchu is a great travel destination because of the historical architectural design and the unknown mysteries of Machu Picchu. According to source 2, *Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu*, Machu Picchu has “the greatest architectural and land use achievements”. Also, in source 1, *The Stones of Machu Picchu*, there are many Inca stonework left on the mountains and Bingham claims that some buildings were built with the finest stonework using perfectly cut white granite ashlar. Machu Picchu also has many of its remains left like some buildings or stone work. Hiram Bingham claims that some Incan graves, stone dishes, and bronze implements were left so you may never know what you may find in Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu may have beautiful scenery but also has amazing architecture.

The last reason why Machu Picchu is an amazing travel destination is because of the wide range of history or historical events that took place there. Machu Picchu is abandoned now but before it was abandoned, it used to be occupied by the Incas. This place used to be a part of the Incan empire. According to source 2, *Historic sanctuary of Machu Picchu*, Machu Picchu appears to date from the period of two Incan people, Pachacutec Inca Yupanqui and Tupac Inca Yupanqui around 1400’s. This historical site has been there for many years from the Incan empire to now, where tourists are now roaming the area. Machu Picchu has a long history which makes it even more interesting and appealing to tourists who are eager to learn more.

Machu Picchu is a great travel destination because of the beautiful scenery, the architectural design, and the long history that occurred there. From the breathtaking

S-4

Score Point 3/3/2

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views of the mountains to the mysteries of Machu Picchu, it's no doubt that this isn't one of the best travel destinations. There are many things to do and see at Machu Picchu. People can learn about the culture and the history or take a tour and take photos of the amazing natural sights. Who wouldn't want to visit one of the most ancient, breathtaking, and outstanding seven wonders of the world? Think again and take a once in a lifetime visit to Machu Picchu in Peru, South America.

3-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response is adequately sustained and generally focused with the purpose, audience, and task. A sufficient introduction provides a scenario and then introduces the controlling idea of visiting Machu Picchu, previewing the three main points discussed in the essay—beautiful scenery, architectural design and mysteries, and the history of Machu Picchu. Each body paragraph begins using the same type of transitional language (*Machu Picchu is an amazing travel destination, Machu Picchu is a great travel destination, The last reason why Machu Picchu is an amazing travel destination*). The transitions within the paragraphs are adequate (*Also according to the article, There are indeed many breathtaking sites*), and a general progression of ideas follows. The conclusion reiterates the main points and reinforces the controlling idea (*Who wouldn't want to visit one of the most ancient, breathtaking, and outstanding seven wonders of the world?*).

3-Evidence/Elaboration

The response provides adequate support, citing evidence for the controlling idea. Evidence from the source material is relevant and generally integrated. Adequate expression of ideas is incorporated (*Machu Picchu is abandoned now but before it was abandoned, it used to be occupied by the Incas. This place used to be a part of the Incan empire. According to source 2, Historic sanctuary of Machu Picchu, Machu Picchu appears to date from the period of two Incan people, Pachacutec Inca Yupanqui and Tupac Inca Yupanqui*). The language facility adds to the fluid expression of ideas. Though reference to the “seven wonders of the world” is not mentioned in the source material, the elaborative rhetorical question in the conclusion makes the final point (*Who wouldn't want to visit one of the most ancient, breathtaking, and outstanding seven wonders of the world?*). This response has adequate citation of sources.

2-Conventions

Although a few errors occur, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated in this draft response.

Are you tired of hearing about Mt. Rushmore? Exhausted from your long trek at the Great Wall of China? Bored of the statues at Notre Dame? Well, why don't you take a trip down to good old Peru to visit the amazing stones of Machu Picchu? You will be taken aback by the rich history of the place and stunned by some of the things you may see there.

Discovered by Hiram Bingham in the summer of 1911, Machu Picchu is often believed to be the ruins of Vilcabamba, the last capital of the Inca civilization. By the time Mr. Bingham stumbled upon this historical treasure, people had been trying to find the location of Vilcabamba or Vitcos for 400 years! Vilcabamba was the secret hiding place of Manco II when he fled the Spanish Conquest in 1535. Machu Picchu is believed by many to be the ruins of Vitcos. Machu Picchu is considered one of the world's greatest archaeological wonders. Inca graves, stone dishes and several bronze implements have been found on the site. These are great proof that Machu Picchu could be the ruins of Vilcabamba. Although there are other location which may also be the ruins of Vitcos, Machu Picchu is still an stupendous place to come and visit. People from all over the world come to see this grand spectacle. They are intrigued by the mystery of Machu Picchu and charmed by the incredible archetecture. You could be one of these people.

Machu Picchu is a desirable destination not only because of the historical significance, but also because of the lovely location this admirable sanctuary. Machu Picchu is located at the meeting point between the Peruvian Andes and the Amazon Basin, 2430 m above sea level. It is in the middle of a tropical mountain forest and surrounded by well cultivated land, Machu Picchu has some of the most breathtaking scenery in the world. The people living near Machu Picchu live in a way that is similar to the Inca. Machu Picchu is also a habitat for many endangered species, including but not limited to: the dwarf brocket, the otter, the long-tailed weasel, the Andean cock of the rock, the Andean condor, the boa, and the pampas cat. If you look carefully, you may spot one!

The gorgeous archetecture is also another great reason to visit Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu consists of about 200 structures. The city is split into upper and lower sections, which separates the residential area from the farming area. The intricate design for this city is thousands of years old and was probably the most archetectually advanced city in its time.

So whether you come for the rich history, the superb scenery and wildlife, or for the jaw-dropping archetecture, I assure you, Machu Picchu will not dissapoint you. This city never fails to impress. So do yourself a favor and pay a visit to the city in the clouds.

3-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response is adequately sustained and generally focused within the purpose, audience, and task. The controlling idea is provided in the introduction (*Well, why don't you take a trip down to good old Peru to visit the amazing stones of Machu Picchu?*). Though the organizational structure is evident in this response, the focus in the second body paragraph is weakened by the tangential information about the local fauna and the people living in the area. Overall, however, the progression of ideas is adequate. The main idea is sustained throughout, and there are adequate transitions at the beginning of each paragraph (*Machu Picchu is a desirable destination not only because of the historical significance, but also because of the lovely location*). A brief conclusion references all main points without repeating them completely.

2-Evidence/Elaboration

Three rhetorical questions are used as an elaborative technique to introduce the topic and the controlling idea of visiting Machu Picchu as a travel destination (*Are you tired of hearing about Mt. Rushmore? Exhausted from your long trek, Bored of the statues at Notre Dame?*). Adequate support and relevant evidence are given throughout the response to support the controlling idea. The evidence that is brought in from the source material is integrated so that the expression of ideas is adequately clarified (*Machu Picchu is believed by many to be the ruins of Vitcos, Machu Picchu is still an stupendous place to come and visit, intrigued by the mystery of Machu Picchu and charmed by the incredible architecture*). The response demonstrates an understanding of the source material; however, without a citation in a text-based writing task, the highest score a response may receive in Evidence and Elaboration is a 2.

2-Conventions

Although a few errors occur, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated in this draft response.

What is Machu Picchu, some people would ask. The people in the world may have heard of it but have they ever seen it or have they ever been to it. Machu Picchu is a great and beautiful place to visit if you ever have the time. It has a whole community that in the past that was filled with people. It is in the between the Andes and the Amazon. It has amazing structures in the makeup that goes all over the mountains.

There was such good history in that civilization. There was a part of the 79 acres of land that had many bodies that were buried by the Inca people. The explorer had found many things around the cities of the Inca people. There were things such as stone dishes. There were also bronze implements. They were also able to make their buildings out of elegantly carved stone. They weighed from about 10 to 15 tons. It was hard and was never discovered how they were able to lift those stones and put them on the top of their structures. This makes us wonder how fascinating these people are because they were able to either invent or had the manpower to lift those stones and place them how they needed to be placed.

Their structures were not only hard to make because of those heavy stones they also had to worry because they were on the side of the mountain that was filled with hills which made it nearly impossible to build their structures. There were about 200 buildings spread around the 79 acres of land that the Inca people controlled. There were very religious buildings spread across the land of the Inca people and there were also structures made for ceremonial purposes that would correspond with other things such as the religion part of the Inca people. There were also places for astronomical purposes and there was also a place for agricultural purposes such as growing plants that you would be able to give to your family or sell it to other people who do not grow plants. This great place is protected by the UGM and they will keep it clean for the people to fall in a nice place to stay for while and see the great sites. This is a state-owned historic place.

This is an amazing and graceful place to visit and bring your family. You will be in awe when you see this place and it will be a site you will never forget. You will never forget the amazing culture that used to be there and how they thrived in their own way. Also you will never forget the amazing structures scattered all over the mountain in the 79-acre controlled and ruled by the Inca people. Please come and visit because it is a thing you will never forget.

3-Purpose/Focus/Organization

An adequate introduction provides the controlling idea (*Machu Picchu is a great and beautiful place to vist*), and a brief overview of Machu Picchu is present. Although the first body paragraph contains some loosely related material, the organizational structure is mostly sustained, as the rest of the response is ordered in a logical way. Transitions clarify relationships between and within the paragraphs (*They were also, This make us wonder, There stuctures were not only hard*), and ideas progress adequately. Although the word choice in the last paragraph is repetitive, the conclusion does provide some sense of completeness to the response.

2-Evidence/Elaboration

The integration of relevant evidence from the source material is uneven. The response elaborates on some of the points from the text but does not integrate all of the points (*part onf the 79 acres of land that had many bodys that were buried, This great place is protected by the UGM and they will keep it clean for the people to fell in a nice place*). No elaborative techniques are used to help develop the expression of ideas, and citations are not included in this response.

1-Conventions

The draft response demonstrates a partial command of basic conventions with errors in spelling, usage, and capitalization (*It is in the between the Andes and the Amozon, There was very religious buildings*).

Machu Picchu

Have you ever viewed one of the world's most amazing archaeological wonders? No I'm not talking about Stonehenge or the pyramids. This is Machu Picchu located in the dense jungles of Peru. This marvel is said to be the last capital of the civilization of the Inca. This structure was found in 1911 by a man named Hiram Bingham. Many people have ruled Machu Picchu over time.

Machu Picchu was once ruled by Manco the second. He built this vast city after he escaped the Spanish and was in secure land. Machu Picchu has three main parts in the city. The explorer Hiram passed away without ever knowing which was the real city of Inca. This great city has changed over the many years that it has remained vacant. Machu Picchu civilized many people for many years. This stopped when Francisco Pizarro conquered the land. When they conquered it, they wrote down everything they saw. They studied all of their beliefs, engineering, and social structure. They tried to learn as much as possible.

In comparison with other monuments, Machu Picchu and other marvels are alike. The pyramids, Stonehenge, and Machu Picchu are alike. They all have stones that take armies to move. We are very fascinated how they moved those stones without the technology that we have today. They are also very different because they are in different parts of the world. The pyramids are the largest and the Stonehenge is the longest. They all share one quality. They are made from enormous stones. Think about how the Inca got stones that weigh 10 tons into the middle of a jungle. One thing that they all have in common is that they are well built. When one stone is on top of the other, you cannot slip a credit card through them. These structures have similar engineering and structure.

Machu Picchu was not discovered immediately. It took almost 400 years to discover it again. It has three parts which we don't know the real city. This city has a lot of history of battles. It has been conquered many times in the past. We still do not know the full history of Machu Picchu.

In the end, it is still a lovely place to visit. You will learn much about history and the civilizations. This structure will make it worth your while. It has an ugly past but a beautiful future. This structure will grow more popular and might house a civilization in the future. There may be other monuments but this one is very unique

2-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task. The introduction begins with the archaeological site of Machu Picchu and the correlation it has to two other sites, the pyramids in Egypt and Stonehenge in Great Britain. Two points in the introduction are minimally addressed later in the essay (*last capital of the civilization of the Inca, structure was found in 1911 by a man named Hiram Bingham*). Although there are lapses in focus of the controlling idea, the response is somewhat organized. The first body paragraph provides facts from the source material but not in a logical order (*Machu Picchu was once ruled by Manco the second, Machu Picchu haws three main parts, Machu Picchu civilized many peiople for many years*). The second body paragraph, however, is more focused on one idea (*The pyramids, stone henge, and Machu Picchu are alike*). The conclusion reinforces the point that Machu Picchu would be a good place to visit.

2-Evidence/Elaboration

The response opens with an elaborative technique using a rhetorical question (*Have you ever viewed one of the wolrd's most amazing archaological wonders?*). Most of the support provided for the source material, however, is uneven and cursory, especially in the first body paragraph, where points are made without evidence presented for those points (*This structure was found in 1911 by a man named Hiram Bingham*). The second body paragraph does integrate some text material into the response with the example of the large stones used in the building of Machu Picchu (*They all have stones that take armies to move. We are very fascinated how they moved those stones wihtout the technology that we have today*). The expression of ideas is sometimes simplistic (*One thing that they all have in common is that they are well built*), and the source material is not cited.

2-Conventions

Although spelling errors occur (*wolrd's, Macchu Picchu, explorer, wihtout*), an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated overall in this draft response.

“Hey! Let’s plan a vacation, let’s go to Peru!” But where in Peru you might ask? Well Machu Picchu is the place to go! I’m here to inform you all about this wonderful place and the civilization that made it happen. The Inca civilization, many people have examined it before. For example, Francisco Pizarro, he was a Spanish conqueror who took over the Incas in the 1530s. Well it looks like he just didn’t examine, he took over!

Let me inform you more on this historic world heritage site. Machu Picchu was built in the fifteenth century and it is so big! It covers 79 acres of mountain slopes, peaks and valleys. Bet you didn’t know that. You probably also didn’t know that Machu Picchu stands 2,430 meters above sea level!

Machu Picchu is one of the most amazing urban creations of the Inca Empire. It is also a secure habitat for several endangered species. The spectacled bear is one of the most interesting species in Machu Picchu. Other animals that live in the secured habitat are also the otter, the long tailed weasel, and much more.

I hope I’ve gotten your attention, I’m only getting started. Machu Picchu has a lot to say and you’re going to love it. Machu Picchu is a world renowned archaeological site, an amazing city with a setting so natural, so beautiful. Machu Picchu is one of the most attractive mountainous territory of the Peruvian Andes, as said in the source.

Machu Picchu is the place to go if you ever plan on going to a vacation out to Peru. Just by reading this you might just fall in love with the picture you imagined in your head of Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu is probably still more beautiful than the picture you imagined in your head after reading this. Machu Picchu is the place to go!

2-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task. A weak introduction containing the controlling idea begins the response and is followed by information that is not maintained in the body of the response (*Francisco Pizarro, he was a Spanish conqueror; he just didn't examine, he took over!*). The three body paragraphs are somewhat organized, but some inconsistent transitional strategies are used within and between paragraphs (*You probably also didn't know, It is also a secure habitat*). The controlling idea (*I'm here to inform you all about this wonderful place*) is not sufficiently sustained throughout the response, and the conclusion is somewhat repetitive (*you might just fall in love with the picture you imagined in your head, more beautiful than the picture you imagined in your head*).

1-Evidence/Elaboration

The response provides minimal support for the controlling idea. Domain-specific language is lacking (*Bet you didn't know that, I hope I've gotten your attention, I'm only getting started*). Information is pulled from the source material but not integrated. Facts about Machu Picchu are included, but without enough elaboration of the given facts, the expression of ideas is vague or unclear (*Machu Picchu has a lot to say and you're going to love it*). Sentence variety is mostly limited to simple sentences (*Machu Picchu is one of the most amazing urban creations of the Inca Empire. It is also a secure habitat for several endangered species*). The response does not contain citations.

2-Conventions

Although a few errors occur, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated in this draft response.

S-9

Score Point 1/1/1

(page 1 of 2)

The significance of Machu Picchu as a travel destination for tourists is really good because Machu Picchu is a good place to have a breathtaking natural view. The reason to this is the city of Machu Picchu is breathtaking because “lasting beauty comes from the careful blending of its striking architecture with its mountaintop environment”.

Machu Picchu has many mysteries that haven't been solved to this day and people are still trying to find out what mysteries there are in Machu Picchu because it says “To this day, many of Machu Picchu's mysteries remain unresolved, including the exact role it may have played in the Incas' sophisticated understanding of astronomy and domestication of wild plant species....” Machu Picchu is one of the most important cultural sites in Latin America so if tourists want to go to a relaxing, breathtaking and adventurous place i would recommend the city of Machu Picchu.

1-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response demonstrates little awareness of the task and lacks organization. The controlling idea of Machu Picchu as a travel destination is provided, but the idea is not focused or sustained throughout. The introduction is minimal (*The significance of Machu Picchu as a travel destination for tourists is really good because*). A couple of facts about Machu Picchu are included, along with some text (*Machu Picchu is breathtaking because, Machu Picchu has many mysteries that haven't been solved*), but these facts are not set up in any logical organizational sequence. The response ends with an inadequate conclusion (*so if tourists want to go to a relaxing, breathtaking and adventurous place i would recommend the city of Machu Picchu*).

1-Evidence/Elaboration

This response provides minimal support for the controlling idea. Two points are made about Machu Picchu—it has breathtaking views and there are many mysteries in Machu Picchu. Two examples of text are given with minimal elaboration or integration (*lasting beauty comes from; To this day, many of Machu Picchu's mysteries remain unresolved*). Citations are not used when quoting from the text.

1-Conventions

A partial command of basic conventions is indicated with errors in capitalization, spelling, and usage (*The reason to this is, adventurous place i would recommend*).

S-10

Score Point 1/1/0

(page 1 of 2)

Have you ever had a historical intrest? would you like to ever visit a historical place with many events that happened many many years ago ? if yes, I would reccomend you to visit Machu Picchu just on the Eastern of Peru! where you would find things like ;the lost ancient Inca city where you would find ruined houses made of the finest quality Inca stonework. although over the centuries the stonework was partly covered with trees and moss. it was a huge amazement to the explorer Hiram Bingham that seen the the stonework. but thats not all a theres a larger set of ruins, but theres also the third set of ruins called Vilcabamba Viejo which stands fot (the old) at espiritu pampa. Machu Picchu is a great travel destination with so many intresting and beatiful things! Machu Picchu has sanitary and safety conditions for tourists and new residents. also if you are curious about some animals Machu Picchu has , you would enjoy the secure habitat for several endangered species which contains ; the spectacled bear , dwarf brocket , an otter, long tailed weasel , pampas cat, vulnerbal ocelot, boa and many more intresting creatures !

1-Purpose/Focus/Organization

The response demonstrates little awareness of the task as exemplified by the unfocused controlling idea. The response lacks a discernible organizational structure. Fact after fact is provided from the source material without a logical sequence or use of transitions (*where you would find ruined houses made of the finest quality Inca stonework; but thats not all a theres a larger set of ruins, but theres also the third set of ruins*). Information is pulled incorrectly from the text and causes confusion (*Machu Picchu has sanitary and safety conditions for tourists and new residents*). The response mentions the various fauna at the site and ends abruptly without conclusion.

1-Evidence/Elaboration

A rhetorical question is used as an elaborative technique to begin the response (*Have you ever had a historical intrest?*). This is followed by listed points from the source material without any integration of evidence or citation. The amount of text from the source is minimal, and the expression of ideas (*Machu Picchu is a great travel destination with so many intresting and beatiful things*) is vague and undeveloped.

0-Conventions

Errors in spelling, usage, capitalization, and sentence formation (*Have you ever had a historical intrest? would you like to, I would reccomend, on the Eastern of Peru*) demonstrate a lack of command of the basic conventions.

