

Virginia Standards of Learning High School Writing CW Anchor Set

In the chart below you will find sample Writing SOL essays that are from the actual students. With your shoulder partner, look over the essays and using the SOL Persuasive Writing Rubric determine what score each essay should receive. In the box next to each essay, write the score you think it should receive as well as your justification for the score based on the rubric. Make sure that you use the language from the SOL Persuasive Writing Rubric when justifying and marking the areas for improvement. Be prepared to share your stance with the class.

<p align="center"><u>Anchor Paper #1</u> <u>Prompt # 22</u></p> <p>While completing high school early may allow students to enter college and the workforce early, it reduces the quality of education that students receive and should therefore not be encouraged.</p> <p>Many opportunities are available in high school that are not accessible to students in college or the workforce. For example, high schools sports generally allow a greater percentage of the student body to participate than do postsecondary universities. While many sports teams are available in post-secondary education, only a very small number of athletes qualify to participate.</p> <p>In addition to increased access to extra-curricular activities, also better prepares students for future endeavors in both college and the workforce. Many high school clubs, such as the Future Farmers of America and the Future Business Leaders of America, prepare students for vocations after high school. Challenging classes, such as Advanced Placement courses, teach students valuable study skills and allow them to earn college credits for a much lower cost than universities provide.</p> <p>While students who enter the workforce early may gain one more year of paychecks than do students who remain in high school, the advantage is quickly negated. Extra classes provide a superior education that allow students who remain in high school to demand higher wages than those who graduate early. For students who choose to remain in high school instead of attending a university early, additional course credits allow them to accel above early high school graduates.</p> <p>In my opinion, the benefits of superior access to extra-curricular activities and vocational training outweigh the benefits of an extra year of earning an income. For these reasons, students should remain in high school and not graduate early.</p>	<p>Score:3</p> <p>Justification: 3-Clear position 3-Adequate introduction 3-Adequately addresses counterclaims and counterevidence 3-Contains adequate evidence 3-Good Conclusion 3-Some rhythmic flow 3Contains specific word choice</p> <p>Areas for Improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spelling errors ● Spacing
<p align="center"><u>Anchor Paper #2:</u> <u>Prompt #5</u></p> <p>What Thomas Jefferson wrote to "Determined never to be idel... It is wonderful how much may be done if we are always doing." may mean something to him; being his opinion. From what he's saying may be true, everyone can accomplish something for what they have done, like for instance: to help others or to finish something important.</p> <p>My opinion to what he is saying might mean that everyone has their own different way by accomplishing something on their own paste. Some people maybe slow on what they do and get things done that way, and for some other people maybe the opposite, they would know what they're doing and get things done faster than others.</p> <p>When we do something and getting it done, we do accomplished things way more faster. The more we finish something, the more greater feeling we get in ourselves like being proud. But no, that may not be true. Accomplishing something may be hard for some other people.</p> <p>People that get things done are usually the people that want to succeed on their work, without slacking off. They would always stay on task and accomplished with what they got to do. For those people that don't accomplish something on time usually maybe really busy with many things and not getting the other things finished.</p> <p>For that it is always a good thing by accomplishing something more, because we get to get things done and not having to worried about anything else.</p> <p>xxxxxxxxxs</p>	<p>Score:1</p> <p>Justification: 2- May focus on a position 1-Fails to organize ideas 1-fails to address counterclaims 1-little or not evidence/little or not elaboration 2-a weak conclusion 1-no rhythmic flow and no sentence variety 2-limited word choice</p> <p>Areas for Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sentence fragments ● Spelling errors and Punctuation ● Thesis with a position ● Lack of direction ● No examples ● No word choice

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Anchor Paper #3:</u> Prompt # 3</p> <p>What do you think the driving age should be? the driving age should be 21 to 30 because there less at rick for accidents. I'm going to tell why it should be that way.</p> <p>One reason is high risks at drinking. For example, teen are the most ones that drank and drive there for when u get older u cant handled that much alcohol in your system, they don't do much when there older. That's why its safer for the driving age to be 21 to 30.</p> <p>Another reason is high rick of accidents. For example, teens go to party's and they get drunk then they have the drive home and can cause an accident and not even knowing they did cause there so drunk to realized it. That why this should let teenagers drive as much.</p> <p>Finial, going over the speed limit. When teens get their car they want to show it off and how fast it can go. For example, speed race on the normal highways they race them because they want to show that there car is better. That's why they should not let teens on the road because they cause more accidents then other groups of people.</p> <p>They should raise the age but not to teens like to the 20ns or 30s age group because they are lease involved with speeding, dranking, or having accidents. some teens or safe at driving but most of then are not. That's why it should be in the older group of people driving on the roads.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No counterclaim <p>Score:2</p> <p>Justification</p> <p>3- Clear position 2-weak introduction 1-Fails to address counterclaims 3- Contains adequate evidence supporting purpose and audience 2- Presents a weak conclusion or merely restates the thesis 2- Uneven rhythmic flow and limited sentence variety 1-Lacks tone and voice, little or no specific word choice, descriptive language.</p> <p>Areas for Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spelling errors ,and Grammar ● Sentence fragments ● No Counterclaim ● Poor word choices
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Anchor Paper #4:

Prompt # 3

Let's be honest, teenage accident rates and mortality rates have increased dramatically over the years. No matter how much they try, parents and law enforcers cannot protect teens all the time, especially from themselves. As a result, the legislature has proposed an increased driving age from sixteen to eighteen to try to alleviate these issues. I believe increasing the minimum driving age will help protect our citizens by better preparing drivers, increasing safety for motorists, and setting a higher level of maturity on the road.

Although it may seem cruel to teens, raising the minimum driving age will allow drivers to become better prepared. In school drivers education classes are wonderful, but I do not believe it should just be crammed into one semester. By exposing teens to drivers education classes from the age of fifteen to eighteen, they will retain more of the information. For example, a student that as skimmed by in drivers education for one semester may encounter an unfamiliar road sign or may not pay attention to posted road aids, which can result in a fatal crash. On the other hand, a student who has been familiarized with different road signs and their meanings over several years will be more likely to be ready to follow their specific instructions.

Increased safety is another major concern that can be addressed with an increased minimum driving age. The older teens become the more they realize that they are not going to live forever. A younger driver is more likely to take risks that endanger, not only their own life, but the lives of their passengers. Whereas an older driver will understand and appreciate life more and not risk the emotional, physical, and legal ramifications of a reckless accident. A younger driver just does not understand how precious life is; they can hurt or kill someone else.

Most importantly, increasing the minimum driving age will ensure more maturity on the road. It is undeniable that an eighteen year old is much more mature than a sixteen year old. Therefore, the older driver will be ready to handle any situation that could happen while driving. For example, if a sixteen year old driver was in a minor accident, first, they would overreact and it would take time for the police officer to calm them down. Secondly, if the officer did not call the driver's parents, the teen is likely to lie about the situation to prevent being in trouble. However, an older driver in the same scenario would remain calm and be responsible about the accident. They would tell the truth to their parents, knowing that honesty really is the best policy.

There is no disputing that safety on the roads needs to be a priority. Our young citizens are hurting and killing themselves on the road. I support our legislatures consideration of an increased driving age. I truly believe that it would allow drivers to be better prepared, increase motorists' safety, and set a higher maturity level on the road. We have to try to protect the future of America, even if it is from themselves.

Score:4

Justification:

- 4-Clear thesis stating position or side
- 4-Effective introduction
- 4-Effectively addresses counterclaims and counterevidence
- 4-Strong conclusion
- 4-Rhythmic flow
- 4- Highly specific word choice

Areas for Improvement

- Spelling errors
- Grammar