

Statement of purpose	Focus and Organization	Conventions
4	4	2

Phoebe

"NO PENNIES," reads the vending machine in front of you. Do we ever really use pennies? In my opinion we should stop minting pennies. Think about it. Should we really keep making pennies? Will it hurt or help our country?

First, as it states in the passage "Do Pennies Make Sense?" we would actually save more money by not producing pennies because it takes 2 cents to make 1 penny. In result we would mostly round to the nearest nickel or dime like the army does.

Second, as president Obama says in paragraph 7, why do we need to make pennies when we hardly use them? Think about it, how many times has one gone up to a vending machine that just spits the pennies right back out. Or the poor cashier who receives 100 pennies to count only to make one weak dollar? Wouldn't it be easier to use nickels or dimes?

Third, as said in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 about how Canada, Australia and many other countries have eliminated their what would be in America, one cent coins. Many people in the US

Through brief examples and rhetorical questioning, the student engages the reader and previews the essay in an argumentative fashion with the main idea.

The student clearly uses evidence from the text to drive her main idea.

Student uses more evidence from the text to drive argumentation reasoning.

Transitions from ideas are present

think it won't help our country, but look at Canada for example, they have a great country and a great economy and are doing just fine.

My last topic of discussion is about how lots of people in the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last passage believe that if we get rid of pennies we will spend more money making nickles. This is true but easy to fix. Tons of people think that it will benefit our community if we get rid of both pennies and nickles. This would help but definitely is not our best option.

In conclusion, even our president agrees that we should get rid of pennies. It will benefit our country in many ways and make our economy and country a great place to be.

Student uses counter-claim in order to give other viewpoints and establish her argument in comparison.

Conclusion remains in focus with main idea and introduction, as well as body paragraphs throughout.

This student showed that she knows how to counterclaim her own opinion in order to establish an effective and responsible argument. Also, the transitions, use and elaboration of evidence, were exemplary for on-demand writing. Conventions and mechanics were excellent throughout in this handwritten sample.

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Prompt  
Pennies

Jola  
March 10, 2016

When's the last time you used a penny? Probably  
not in a while. When's the last time you asked for a penny  
back because you overpaid? Pennies are not useful  
and as of today you can't buy anything for 1 one  
penny. We should not be using pennies, and we  
should not keep making them. I think we should  
not keep making and using pennies, and here's why.  
To start off, pennies cost more to make than they're  
worth, they cost 2 cents to make. In fact, last year, the  
government spent 58 million dollars making pennies. What makes  
them pennies so expensive? Pennies are made out of zinc, which  
costs quite a bit. The company Jordan Zinc Products has  
made 800 million dollars since 2000. Well, if they cost

Student uses rhetorical questions to help develop argument and main idea in the introduction.

Student displays good transitions and also analyzes evidence to enhance main idea.

so much to make, people must be using them, and putting them to good use.

Really, pennies are not used much throughout the United States. Nowadays, people more frequently use debit and credit cards to buy things rather than cash. After all, when's the last time you've or your parents have payed with cash, or pennies. Last month, President Obama stated, "Anytime we're spending money on something people don't use, that's an example of things we should probably change." If we got rid of pennies, yes, our products prices will go up, and we will have to use dimes. Good news is that dimes cost only five cents to make, less than how much they are.

Student uses background knowledge to help establish their argument

Student uses more information from the text and synthesizes it to make new meaning with their opinion.

As you can tell, permits are useless, and cost a  
lot to make. A permitless country would be much better  
than one with permits. I do not think we should have  
permits, and you should too.

Although the conclusion is choppy and fairly weak, it is consistent with the focus of the main idea from the introduction.

Convention and mechanics are adequately displayed throughout the handwritten essay. The student displays that she understands how to make an argument and to use information to enhance her point of view. The focus and organization of the paper were consistent throughout as well.

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2	2	2

Prompt

Joel

Pennies

March 10, 2016

I think the United States should get rid of the penny because it doesn't do a lot to help the United States and it isn't the most important coin. It costs more to make than it is worth and it is frequently not very important.

Student has a clear main idea, but is very brief in previewing what the rest of the essay will look like.

I think the United States should stop making pennies because it is cheaper to buy toys for \$9.95 than it is for \$9.99. A good reason for getting rid of the penny is every time you would make a penny you would save 2 cents because it costs 2 cents to make a 1 cent coin. If the government got rid of pennies it would be ok because the nickels cost 10¢ to make and the dimes cost 5¢ to make.

Although the student uses evidence to begin their opinion, they did not think through the cost scenario between penny and nickel.

I think the United States should get rid of the pennies because most people in our time use debit or credit cards and not as much cash and coins. I also think the United States should get rid of pennies because its currency is less than its production cost. Most charities don't care if the penny will stop being made and the Salvation Army says that the group which gets many coin donations are not worried.

Transitions are present, but not smoothly integrated.

To sum up I think United States should get rid of the penny because a lot of countries in the world don't have there lowest valued coins anymore and because if the United States takes away the penny they can save a total of a lot of money. In conclusion the U.S. should get rid of the penny because the nickel and the dime produce the same money as they do to make them because a nickel plus a dime equals fifteen cents and the total to make one dime and one nickel together is fifteen cents.

Students builds a focused conclusion, but the circular reasoning deteriorates the argument

This student shows the ability to keep the paper somewhat focused, but does not adequately use the information from the text to establish the opinion and synthesize the information coherently. Mechanics and conventions are adequate.

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1	2	2

Prompt

Sydnee

Pennies

March 10, 2016

Should we keep the penny or not? Pennies are still good but, many people think not. I personally think that we should keep pennies for these reasons.

The main idea is stated, but only in part in the very brief introduction.

People think we should not make pennies because they cost 2 cents to make. But if we get rid of the penny we would have to stick with the nickel. And nickels cost 10 cents to make. Without pennies it would cost more in stores. For example: if a toy was \$8.99 we would be able to pay that price with pennies. But without the penny we would have to make it \$9.00. Without the penny we would have to make more nickels and making more nickels is more expensive than making more pennies. Many countries have stopped using pennies. More reasons why we shouldn't get rid of pennies is charities rely on pennies so they can raise more money. And 67% of Americans think that we should still use pennies, that means that only 33% doesn't want pennies. Another way that we can keep the penny is by making them out of different material. We can make pennies out of steel. Steel

A lot of information is used here for the argument, but tangents take away both the focus and elaboration of the evidence. Circular reasoning with several different facts does not adequately show analysis skills.



is less expensive than zinc. A penny is 97.5% zinc and only 2.5% copper. So if we make pennies out of steel it would save us a lot of money and we wouldn't have to use the nickel. Experts have said that since the penny and the nickel cost lots to make, that we should just get rid of both of them and stick with the dime. But then again the dime does cost 5 cents to make. More than it would a penny. Pennies cost 2 cents to make nickels cost 10 cents to make and dimes cost 5 cents to make. Pennies cost less than it would to make a nickel or a dime. So why get rid of it if it costs less to make?

In conclusion, I think that we should still use pennies. It will save us money. Some of you might disagree or some of you might agree.

Conclusion is not parallel with introduction and does not adequately convey the main idea.

This student shows adequate command of conventions and mechanics, but lacks in elaboration of evidence, as well as struggles with remaining focused on a main idea. They did not clarify the main idea as stated, nor did they conclude the main idea. They did, however, use evidence, albeit in a choppy fashion.

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1	1	1

Prompt

Sam

Pennies

March 10, 2016

President Barack Obama said that is probably time for the united states to stop making pennies. Other people think otherwise that we should keep pennies. In my opinion I would not keep the pennies.

Introduction is limited, but there is a focus and main idea. However, the focus gets lost throughout the rest of the essay

In the year 2012, It costs 2¢ every ¢. Every year the pennies goes more up to pay more to make the penny. One year ago it costed them in the whole year it costed \$58 million making pennies. At stores in the army in the us cash purchases are rounded to the nearest nickel. People would be force to pay more because they would be rounding to the nearest nickel. On 1982 it has been the only supplier of pennies. The company has earned \$800 million. It is a good deal.

Information is shared, but it is virtually taken word-for-word from the text with no elaboration of evidence.

Now you can see that they need to get rid of pennies. I agree withe Obama that we should get rid of pennies for ever.

Conclusion wraps up the very brief argument created by the student, but fuses no new material or concluding points to enhance the argument.

The mechanics and conventions were not adequate enough so as to not distract the reader from the main idea and flow of the essay, even though there are some grammatical errors. The focus is limited throughout and the evidence is lacking analysis and elaboration.