"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 take 2 cents to make 1 penny. As a result we would mostly round to the nearest nickle or dime like the army does.

Second, as president Obama says in paragraph 1 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 receive 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...
This student showed that she knows how to counterclaim her own opinion in order to establish and 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.
Where the last time you used a penny? Probably not in a while. Where the last time you asked for a penny back because you overpaid? Pennies are not useful and as of today you can buy anything for 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 $8 million dollars making pennies. What makes this pennies so expensive? Pennies are made out of zinc, which costs quite a bit. The company Johnson Zinc Products has made $500 million dollars since 2000. Well, if they cost...
So much to make, people must be using them and putting them to good use.

Really, pennies are 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 paid with cash or pennies, last month.

President Obama states, "Whenever we're spending money on something people don't use, that's an example of things we should probably change." If we get rid of pennies, yes, our products' price will go up, and we will have to use dimes. Good news is that dimes cost only five cents so 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.
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.

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

Prompt

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.

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 to 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.

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.
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.

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.
Prompt: Pennies

Sydney

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.

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 then 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
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 then 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.

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.
5th Grade Opinion
Prompt: Pennies

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Prompt

Pennies

Sam

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.

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.

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

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.