Virginia Standards of Learning Grade 5 Writing

Usage and Mechanics Anchor Set with Annotations
Anchor A-1

My mom gave me 100 dolers it was speshl day my mom took me wall maert wene i had 100
dolers i didnt know to do wath to bay ther it took me all day but i hav finley i found me
someteing it was a heks bug nanos i relly want to get mw3, mp4payer, or a phoen but i
desid that want't to get the hek bug nanos wan we got home I had a spider, ant, relley coll
glow in the dark tack set it was the funest toys i got.

Anchor Paper 1
Score Point 1

Little or no control of the domain’s features is exhibited in this response. The writing consists
entirely of run-ons (My mom gave me 100 dolers it was speshl day my mom took me wall maert),
illustrating a lack of control over sentence formation. Usage errors are frequent enough to impair
the reader’s understanding of the paper's meaning. For instance, tense shifts and incorrect or
missing verb inflections impair meaning (it took me all day but I hav finley I found me someteing it
was a heks bug nanos I relly want to get mw3, mp4payer, or a phone but I desid that want’t to get
the hek bug nanos). Meaning is further impeded by severe errors in mechanics throughout the
piece. There are misspellings of basic words (dolers [dollars]; speshl [special]; wene [when]; wath
[with]; bay [buy]; hav [have]). While the writer does correctly use commas in a series (mw3,
mp4payer, or a phone), the overall lack of correct punctuation and capitalization also make the
response difficult to understand. The response further shows no awareness of formatting. The
density and variety of errors overwhelm the performance and demonstrate little or no
control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features, meriting a score point 1.
Did you ever have a wonderful thing happened to you? I did. When I came home and I noticed that the same thing was singing, I got into the house. I stopped hearing the singing, then I ran out of the house. I didn’t know where my mom was, so I went back into the house. And then I heard a surprise! I told this to my mom, and she said that she loves my birthday. My birthday was the best time. I went to the waterpark, then to the zoo, and my mom got me 10 new games. We waited out to eat the whole weekend. The end.

**Anchor Paper 2**

**Score Point 1**

Although this response does contain a number of correctly formed sentences, run-on sentences and over-coordinated sentences also appear (Did you ever have a wonderful thing happened to you? I did. When I came home and I noticed that the same thing was singing, I got into the house. I stopped hearing the singing, then I ran out of the house). Usage errors, including tense shifts and lack of proper verb inflections, are pervasive and impede meaning (I didn’t know where my mom was, so I went back into the house. And then I heard a surprise! I told this to my mom, and she said that she loves my birthday). While there is evidence of formatting, mechanics errors are pervasive and often elementary in nature. Misspellings of basic words (wind [when]; same thing [something]; were [where]; wait [went]; In tell [Until]) and lack of capitalization contribute to the overall demonstration of little or no control of most of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features. The density and variety of errors overwhelm the performance and demonstrate little or no control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features, meriting a score point 1.
One Friday morning it was my birthday. I woke up and went outside to see how the weather was. I saw a package and said who is this for? So I looked to find a name on it. Saying who was it from? I was waiting for everyone to come over and ask who gave it to me. Okay, she said so I went to my room and kept on looking. Maybe it was from my dad. So I called him, and he didn't answer. I left him a message. It was time for the people to come in and we were having fun eating with all my family and talking. When the time came for the cake, I was blowing the candles and after that, I said I have a package and said who gave it to me? When finally my grandma came and said I love you. You are so special to me. I was crying when she said that. I thought it was from my dad because he sometimes sends me some things in a box and does not put a name from it. Maybe but the party did not stop. Everyone was going to open it. I said no, why? Because at night, I will be banging on the table and saying open it, open it. So I did. I was a phone, and two pairs of shoes and one pair of clothes. I was happy the day was night. I was going to sleep mostly. Everyone was leaving. I said to Jesse, thank you for this wonderful day.

**Anchor Paper 3**

**Score Point 1**

This response exhibits little or no control across all features of this domain. The entire response consists of run-on sentences with no evidence of sentence boundaries overall, which overwhelms the piece and makes it difficult to read. Usage errors are frequent, including tense shifts that impede meaning (I woke up and went outside and see how was the weather and I saw a package and I said who is this for so I look to fine a name on it saying who was it from). While there is evidence of awareness of formatting and some evidence of control in spelling, there are a number of misspellings of basic words (fine [find]; where [were]; didn’t [didn’t]; its [it]; off [of]; camp [kept]; every one [everyone]; pares [pairs]). There is a high density of elementary mechanics errors, including a pattern of missing punctuation throughout the entire piece and a pattern of capitalization errors, which further impede meaning. The density and variety of errors overwhelm the performance and demonstrate little or no control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features, thus meriting a score point 1.
My name is Thomas. My friend name is Aaron he is friendly. Both of us could not wait until we got on the bus for a felled trip. We are going to the move teator. My friend and I went to our sets. I had to go to the bathroom as soon as i could come back we all had to leave. the end.

Anchor Paper 4  
Score Point 2

In this brief response, correctly formed sentences appear alongside run-ons (My friend name is Aaron he is friendly), indicating significant weakness in sentence formation. Elementary usage skills are inconsistent with a verb tense shift (We are going to the move teator. My friend and I went to are sets) and a possessive error (friend [friend’s]). Control of mechanics is also inconsistent. There are frequent misspellings (felled [field]; move [movie]; teator [theater]; are [our]; sets [seats]; leve [leave]) alongside correctly spelled words (friendly; until; bathroom). Capitalization errors are present (as soon as i could come back we all had to leve. the end), as well as missing punctuation. However, formatting is evident. The density and variety of errors in features of the Usage/Mechanics domain outweigh what is done correctly, meriting a score point 2.
One day my friend Dave came to see me. He just got his driver license he brought a new sports car. The next day Dave take me for a drive but the car was acting a little weird.

However the next day Dave said the car wasn't home last night, and when I got home from taking you from the drive he was pushing button by his self, and he was looking at the sky. I said all cars look at the sky I said. This look was different you have to trust me. The car was acting a little weird yesterday I said see said Dave.

The next day it was midnight Dave said just watch as the car go. He said just wait and just wait and wait and wait and wait I wait it so long that it was morning. I'm going home I said wait said Dave, stop saying wait I said I heard that last night. He said were's the car I looked shocked, all morning we was looking for the car wait saying wait. The sky Dave said the sky I said in there it was the shiny red sports car.

The next day was different we knew the car could fly. When we saw the car Dave said you can't ran off like that, and we knew that you can fly. Did you knew I can talk said the car. You can talk yes because I'm a super herooO.

I can shoot oil from my tires, I can blind you with my light, we have to go someone is hurt said the car hurt Dave said its a dog get in. We have to call 911 said the car Dave call 911 I said. Hello this is the police station YES a dog just got hurt help is on the way. A few minute police came everywhere, take the to the animal hospital Thanks for calling. We have to go said the car where said Dave a human call i know said Dave 911. Hello this is the police station a human help is on the way. A car hit me said the human it wasn't me said the car. A few minute police came everywhere I just saw you I know take her to the hospital. Thanks for calling. Now ME, Dave, and the car fight crime mostly we call 911.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 5
Score Point 2

There are run-on sentences throughout this response (The next day it was midnight Dave said just watch as the car go), alongside correctly formed sentences, indicating inconsistency with this feature. The paper shows inconsistent control over usage, including subject-verb agreement errors (we was looking for the car), and tense shifts (The next day Dave take me for a drive). While formatting is evident, mechanics is also inconsistent. A fairly strong command of spelling (license; weird; different; yesterday; station; hospital) and capitalization is offset by numerous punctuation errors, including the extensive use of dialogue with no quotation marks, which makes this piece difficult to read and understand. The density and variety of errors in features of the Usage/Mechanics domain outweigh what is done correctly, meriting a score point 2.
Anchor A-6

SPECIAL EVENT
I have a special event. My special event is when I allmost hit a homerun. I heard the fence rattle. I made it to secend base.
I saw the ball go flying. I was playing agihts the mets. It was along shot. It was going along distens.
I head the fence rattle. I sall the fence shake. It sount like a gun. It was going to hit the ground.
I made it to second base. I watched the ball hit the fence. I ran as fast as I could. I all most got out.
As you can see I have a special event. I can hit the ball hard. Have you ever hit a homerun.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 6
Score Point 2

While sentences are controlled in this response (I have a special event. My special event is when I allmost hit a homerun. I heard the fence rattle. I made it to secend base), pervasive elementary errors in mechanics indicate inconsistent control. Although usage is controlled for the most part, with a single error in verb inflection (sount [sounded]), control of this feature is offset by numerous errors in mechanics. There are misspellings of basic words (allmost [almost]; secend [second]; agihts [against]; along [a long]; distens [distance]; head [heard]; sall [saw]). There is a capitalization error (mets [Mets]), as well as a missing comma and question mark. Formatting, however, is evident with indenting of paragraphs. The density and variety of errors in features of the Usage/Mechanics domain outweigh what is done correctly, meriting a score point 2.
I have a little U.S flag that is important to me because my grandpa gave it to me. he seed that it is from the 1970`s and he had got it for one pound(about 1.5 doers). he seed that I could have it and I was so happy because that was the only thing of his that I have of his.

As I was enjoying getting the little flag. we herd A thud as me and grandpa trend orotund and saw that Will had fallen of a little cart that my grandpa had made. Then we when`t inside for lunch.

At lunch we chatted about how the day had bean but in the back of my mind I was thinking about the little flag and wondering why my English grandpa had a Us flag in his back lard. I wondered for the hole time that I was England. It just did not make sense heed got it before we move to the u.s.a. It puzzled me.

After lunch I when`t to my room and sat on my bed and stared at the flag and thought and thought and thought and thought. then it was time for diner at diner I ast grandpa why he had a little us flag in his back yard and he seed he to it would cool to bey it. that unpuzzled me.

After diner I hung it on my bedroom wall then the next day we came back to the good old U.S.A. and then hung it on my bedroom wall. And that is why this litte flage is inporentnt to me.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 7
Score Point 2

In this brief response, correctly formed sentences appear alongside run-ons (It just did not make sense heed got it before we move to the u.s.a. It puzzled me) and a fragment (As I was enjoying getting the little flag), indicating weakness in sentence formation. Usage errors are infrequent but include incorrect verb inflections (move [moved]; ast [asked]). Control of mechanics is inconsistent. There are frequent misspellings of basic words (seed [said]; doers [dollars]; herd [heard]; trend [turned]; orotund [around]; of [off]; when`t [went]; bean [been]; lard [yard]; hole [whole]; heed [he’d]; diner [dinner]; to [thought]; bey [buy]; litte [little]; flage [flag]; inporentnt [important]), alongside correctly spelled words (important, pound, because, enjoying, chatted, wondered, puzzled, thought). Knowledge of formatting is evident, but capitalization errors do occur (we herd A thud as me and grandpa trend orotund). Punctuation is also inconsistently controlled with misapplied apostrophes (when`t) and missing periods (I have a little U.S flag). The density and variety of errors in features of the Usage/Mechanics domain outweigh what is done correctly, meriting a score point 2.
Hello my name is Rachel and I’m going to tell you about a time I helped my sister. Three years ago my sister had her first baby. Now being her sister I’m an aunt so when she didn’t have a baby sitter she would call me to see if I could come down and help out. My mother had said that it was a great job for me on spring break; weekends and summer breaks since I was always complaining about how I never had anything to do. I thought I was going to be easy but boy was I wrong. I never thought it’d be that hard to care for a child.

I arrived at my sisters house around 3:30. As soon as I walked in the door I was ambushed by an abundance of toy trucks. An hour later I still had a imprint of a monster truck on my face. I hadn’t been there an hour and I was already sore. After my nephew went to sleep I went outside and laid on the porch and passed out. A wooden bench never felt so good on my back.

When I woke up I was more sore than I was before I went to sleep. My sister motioned me into the house. She said she was going to have another baby soon. I said “How on earth will I survive two I barely survived one for an hour. She said this one will be good. I said I hope so. This is the time I helped someone when they were in need of help.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 8
Score Point 3

Reasonable control of sentence formation is evident in this response with a single run-on (I said “How on earth will I survive two I barely survived one for an hour”). Otherwise, sentence boundaries are intact throughout the piece. Two usage errors (a imprint [an imprint]; laid [lay]) are offset by control of this feature throughout the remainder of the response. In mechanics, there are only two spelling errors (Tree [three]; baby sitter [babysitter]), amidst otherwise correct spelling. There is a missing comma after an introductory element (Hello my name is), as well as a misapplied semicolon, a missing apostrophe, missing quotes around dialogue, and a period for a question mark. There are several capitalization errors, including a failure to consistently capitalize the personal pronoun “I” and the first letter of the first word in a sentence. Formatting of paragraphs is evident. Control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features is reasonable, but not consistent, warranting a score point 3.
One day Emma and I were walking in the park. Suddenly I stopped walking and Emma saw me, and asked why I stopped I pointed. We saw an enormous spaceship. It was purple, white, and black. The door was opened so me and Emmastepped inside filled with curiosity. We saw a control panel labeled "BEWARE DON'T TOUCH!" Then i saw a red button Emma saw it to I already knew what she was thinking she wanted to touch it. She reached out her arm and slowly pressed it. I looked at her in horror and mouthed "Are You Out Of Your Mind!" the floor started to shake furiously beneath us. I asked Emma why she would do something like that, but all she did was shrug her shoulders. Then whoseh we were up in the air.

I found some old astronaut suits and handed one to Emma. We quickly changed then sat in comfy chairs. Emma tried to think of a way to entertain us. I noticed Emma watching me trying to think of a way to get home. She caught my eye and smiled I smiled back. That's when I saw a phone number with a phone next to it.. The phone number was 555-649-213. I dialed the numbers in six seconds flat. I waited and I heard a gentle voice on the other end that, said hello. I said hi I'm Leila I'm trapped in a spaceship with my friend Emma on the moon. Do you Know how to get us back to planet earth. The lady said "yes, press the yellow and green button at the same time and wait till you hear a boom. I said thank you for everything and hung up.

I did what the lady said and waited. Emma heard the boom first then I did. Me and Emma jumped up and down five times in delight. Emma looked out the window and saw the green park. We opened the door with a swish and leaped out. We ran all the way to my house. Then I told Emma that we could never tell anyone about our experience.

We hugged each other really tight said our good byes and she went home. I Took a shower. When I was getting ready for bed I wondered how a phone could have worked on the moon. I called Emma and told her that she was very smart to try and think of a way to keep us entertained. There was a moment of silence and then I asked her if she knew how a phone worked on the moon. She said she did not know. Emma you know what we learn something new everyday.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 9
Score Point 3

While there are a number of run-ons in this response (Then i saw a red button Emma saw it to I already knew what she was thinking she wanted to touch it), the majority of sentences are correctly formed. A sprinkling of usage errors are present (The door was opened so me and Emma stepped inside; Me and Emma jumped up and down five times in delight; We hugged each other really tight). A fairly strong command of spelling (enormous, furiously, delight, experience, entertained) is offset by capitalization errors and missing punctuation, including quotation marks around dialogue, periods, and an apostrophe. Formatting is evident. On the whole, control of the Usage/Mechanics domain's features is reasonable, but not consistent, warranting a score point 3.
My favorite school event is when we go to Randolph Park.

My favorite event is when we go to Randolph Park at the end of the year. When we get there the first thing we do is eat lunch my favorite subject. Then we go swimming when we get to the pool the first thing I do is go down the slide. Then I go hang out with my friends and pull them under water.

We also get to go to NRV Supper Bowl and go bowling on the same day. I'm really good at bowling some times when it's a good day. At the bowling ally they have electronic score keepers so you don't have to do it your self. Then we ride back to school.

My favorite event in school is when we go to Randolph Park.

**Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 10**

**Score Point 3**

Reasonable control of sentence formation is evident with a single run-on (Then we go swimming when we get to the pool the first thing I do is go down the slide). Otherwise, sentence boundaries are generally intact. Control of usage is maintained consistently throughout the response. In mechanics, spelling is generally strong (subject, bowling, electronic), although a sprinkling of fairly basic errors shows that control is not consistently maintained (some times [sometimes]; ally [alley]; your self [yourself]). While capitalization is consistently applied and formatting is evident, there are instances of missing periods at the end of paragraphs, as well as a missing comma and apostrophe. **Overall, control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features is reasonable, but not consistent, resulting in a score point 3.**
My friend, Hope, and I found a space ship! One day I saw her come out and she left the door open, so I decided to take a look. It was huge! Everything was spectacular. Oh oh! I just hit the launch button. I quickly sat down and bucked up. Hope came out to see what was going on and saw the ship floating in the air. She looked at the window and saw me with the controls. She didn't look happy at all. She told me to get out, but I didn't and went somewhere else. By the time I got back I told Hope what happened and she forgave me. This is what happened when my friend and I found a spaceship.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 11
Score Point 3

In this brief response, sentence formation is controlled. There are no noticeable errors in this feature. Usage is reasonably controlled with a verb inflection error (look [looked]), alongside usage that is correctly applied. There are a few spelling errors (space ship; bucked [buckled]; some where), amidst otherwise consistent control of spelling throughout the piece. Punctuation is controlled, with a single instance of an elementary capitalization error (but i didn't). The response is formatted with appropriate paragraphing. The errors present demonstrate reasonable, not consistent, control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features, resulting in a score point 3.
It was just a normal day at G----. We turned on the morning announcements and our principal, Mrs. W, came on and announced that we would be having a talent show this year. Everyone started to buzz with excitement. I had no idea what to do. Should I sing or play the flute? At the end of the day we went to my grandma's house. We were having dinner when my aunt told me what she did in the talent show. She was in a granny flash mob! "That's what I should do!" I said. It was time to start planning.

I gathered some of my friends and we pick out a song and started to work on the dance. Here's how the skit went. There are three granny's knitting. One keeps asking "Is it time yet?". The other one keeps saying no until they finally say yes. Then the third granny yells "Flash mob!" and even more granny's pop out from behind there chairs and start to dance!

A week later it's time for the audition. We get dressed in our costumes and spray paint our hair then nervously sit in the hall way. Soon it's our turn. We go in and the judges start to murmur among themselves. But we give it our all and they smile and laugh and video tape us. Then it's all over and we just have to wait for the results.

On Friday the results come in. We made it! We all cheer! Later were practicing after school getting ready for the talent show. We fix our costumes and practice our lines. We also take time to watch the other people who made it and give them constructive criticism. We tell jokes and laugh at each other and practice, practice, practice.

Tonight's the night. We sigh anxiously in our seats waiting for our turn. Finally we're up. We go on the stage and the music starts. Everyone loves us and they all laugh and smile. When it's over the guy I like tells me he liked it allot. I go to bed wondering if there are talent shows in middle school.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 12
Score Point 4

In this response sentence formation is consistently controlled. There are no noticeable errors in this feature. Usage is equally strong, with only the occasional error (I gathered some of my friends and we pick out a song and started to work on the dance) that is far outweighed by evidence of control, such as with the consistently correct use of adverbs (. . . then nervously sit in the hall way; We sigh anxiously . . . ). Mechanics features are also consistently, though not necessarily perfectly, controlled. One type of missing apostrophe (were [we're]) is offset by otherwise strong use of punctuation, including commas around interrupters, commas in a series, and quotation marks around dialogue. There are a couple of missing capital letters (we were having dinner . . . ; finally were up), as well as a few spelling errors (know [no]; there [their]; hall way [hallway]; criticism [criticism]; allot [a lot]). The response is properly formatted. Overall, control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features is consistent, though not perfect, resulting in a score point 4.
A SPECIAL PERSON

Do you have a special person in your life? Well, I do! That special person in my life is my sister, Michelle. Michelle is a special person in my life because no matter where we are, my sister and I always have a spectacular time together, I follow in her exact footsteps, and we do gymnastics together.

To begin with, Michelle and I always make any situation amusing. Usually, my family goes somewhere everyday like, to Walmart, the mall, or a restaurant which can be really boring sometimes. So to make a boring time better, Michelle and I like to do weird stuff like, quack as a duck, stomp our feet, or throw random objects at each other. Once, my family and I had to go to my grandfather's retirement party, so Michelle and I were excited because we heard that there was going to be music, food, cake, and soda. The next day, my family and I had to pack up our things to leave because my grandfather's retirement party was in Ohio. But, there was a little twist to our plans! My mom said that we'd have to stay in a hotel for three days! Most people like staying in hotels like my baby brother, Jacob. But Michelle and I hate staying in hotels because a long time ago, our family bought a king-sized hotel room that could fit all six people inside. Then we all got settled down and chose our beds. Of course Michelle and I chose a bed together. Then as the sun went to sleep, we put on our pajamas and went to bed. Ten minutes later, Michelle and I felt something scurry across our feet! When we lifted up the covers, we saw a family of mice! We screamed to the top of our lungs that our mom and dad bought a new room. As I was saying, Michelle and I refused to go, but the next thing you know we arrive at our destination! Since my dad had to shove Michelle and I in the car, we had no choice, but to stay in a hotel! so before we went into our room my mom had it be inspected to make sure there wasn't any creatures inside. When the inspection was over, the man told us we could head in. When we arrived to the party, all we saw was a whole bunch of old people! there was music playing, but no one would dance, so Michelle and I got up and danced wildly! Then, the old people started dancing too! My sister and I had gotten old people to dance which was the funniest thing ever!

Secondly, I follow in my sister's exact footsteps. Michelle is a wonderful role model and a wonderful sister to me and it inspires me to be just like her. Michelle is very smart and so am I because I always use to watch her do her homework not forgetting a piece of it. Today, I almost dress like her because she has a unique fashion that is so beautiful. She's also the cheer captain of her school which gives her a huge advantage. My sister will always inspire me to do what's right.

Lastly, We do gymnastics together. When my sister and I do gymnastics together, we have such a great time together because it's something we've both been doing since I was five and she was eight. It makes us feel like life's a breeze because all we do is tumble and work out all day together. we also teach each
other new things! My sister and I are like two peas in a pot!

There is no doubt that I haven't told you that my sister’s a special person in my life because we make boring things amusing, I follow in her footsteps, and we do gymnastics together. I hope that you have a special person in your life!

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 13
Score Point 4

This response demonstrates consistent control of the Usage/Mechanics domain. There are no sentence formation errors, even in sentences with sophisticated structures (As I was saying, Michelle and I refused to go, but the next thing you know we arrive at our destination). Usage is equally controlled with only the occasional error (Since my dad had to shove Michelle and I) that is far outweighed by evidence of control of this feature. There is consistent control of punctuation throughout the writing, including quotation marks for dialogue, apostrophes in contractions and possessives, and commas in series and around interrupters. Capitalization errors are few, and, though there is a careless spelling error (along [a long]), spelling is consistently controlled throughout the piece. Formatting is evident. Overall, control of this domain's features is consistent, though not necessarily perfect, resulting in a score point 4.
Alice Mary Johnson

Have you ever had a favorite toy? A favorite toy is a toy that you like best out of all you other toys. My favorite toy is my Barbie doll.

My Barbie doll was beautiful, and her name was Alice Mary Johnson. She had curly golden brown hair. Her dress was a beautiful hot pink with a golden belt around her waist. She came with a brush, different outfits, and blue and pink high heels.

Alice was my favorite toy because everywhere I went she was the only one that could comfort me. She was the only real friend I had, no one could replace her. If she was not with me I was not happy. No one was greater than Alice.

In conclusion, Alice is beautiful, my Barbie doll, and a true friend to me.

Usage/Mechanics Anchor Set, Paper 14
Score Point 4

In this response, sentence formation is consistently controlled; there are no noticeable errors in this feature. Control of usage is also maintained consistently throughout. Mechanics’ features are also consistently, though not necessarily perfectly, controlled. While there are no errors in punctuation or capitalization, there are two careless spelling errors (you [your], to [toy] in the first paragraph, which does not detract from the otherwise strong spelling throughout the remainder of the piece. The response is also properly formatted. Overall, control of the Usage/Mechanics domain’s features is consistent, though not necessarily perfect, warranting a score point 4.