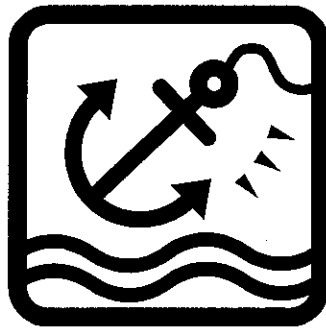


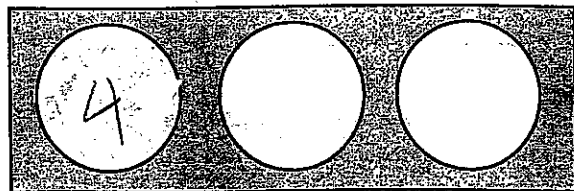
# Oakland Unified School District Writing Proficiency Project



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Expository Anchor Papers Tech Tool Prompt

Note: Please do not use the anchor papers with students prior to the administration of the Process Writing Assessment

# Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

## START ESSAY HERE

There are many "tech tools" I use all the time, like my iPod, the TV, my cell phone, the computer, and so much more. When I think about it, I wouldn't want these items not to be in my life, but I certainly could live without them! and guess what, many people have or still do live without those tech tools! That is why my tech tool is something I use to stay healthy. My tech tool is a pump, and it's a tool that I literally couldn't live without.

A pump is a handheld (or pocket held in my case) device. I use the pump at least 7 times a day, everyday. The pump is a tool that is attached to me and carries insulin to my body. Insulin is something that most people produce in their body, but for me<sup>and other diabetics</sup> is delivered through the pump. The pump contains a reservoir (the capsule that contains the insulin), tubing (that delivers the insulin), a site (the area where it connects to my body), and of course buttons. When I want or need to give myself insulin, I press the "Bolus Wizard" button, enter my blood sugar (or glucose rating), enter the amount of carbs I'm having, then press "Act" twice. Once the pump vibrates, I know that the insulin is coming, and I'm good to go!

I remember when I first got the pump. I was thrilled, but had no idea what I was in for. When the pump arrived

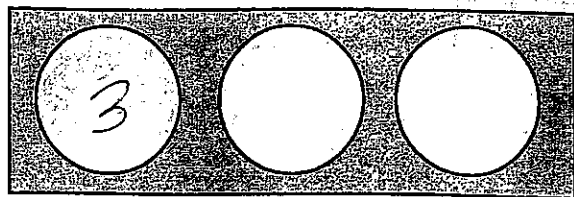
about  
the size  
of a cell  
phone-

in the mail, I thought I was ready to go, yet I didn't  
much about how it worked. Then a person came over to  
our house to explain how the pump worked and to get  
me started with the pump. The lady sat down in a chair  
and started saying all of these words that I didn't know,  
like bolus, basal, and many more. I then thought "Oh  
great... I'm in trouble". But it all worked out, I know  
"pump talk", I'm happy, what else is there?!

The pump is important because it keeps me healthy.  
It controls my blood sugar, and gives me the freedom  
to eat whatever I want. Before the pump, I had to give  
myself shots at least 5 times a day! Whenever my blood sugar  
was high, or if I was eating a lot of sugar, I hated  
it! But now, with the pump, I just program in what  
I'm eating. It's less pain, and personally I'd say a  
better concept.

Now you know my tech tool. I chose this because my  
health depends on this tool. It's the best product for  
diabetics so far I think. But in a few years there's  
probably going to be something better. Anyway, now you  
know how the pump works, what the pump is, my personal  
experience with it, and why it's so important. I hope  
you enjoyed the essay as much as I enjoy the  
pump.

## Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

START ESSAY HERE

In my opinion, the internet is the most important and resourceful tech tool of all time! It can be expensive or inexpensive, used at home or in a public area. Not only is this tool fun, it's knowledgable, too! This isn't an essential device, but it sure is a useful one!

The internet is a gadget that anyone can add information to. You can entertain yourself, learn about new or old data, and buy things, all with a little something called internet! Instead of walking or driving to a library or store, just hop over to your computer a few feet away from you. Click here, click there. Soon enough you'll have exactly the information you wanted without having to walk or drive all the way to a library or store!

In order for people to receive internet, satellite signals are sent out all over the world, then zapped into your computer.

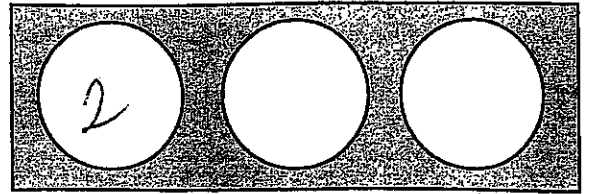
These signals are invisible and they almost seem to be magical!

Just last year, I got internet. When I realized that I could find data in a blink of an eye, I integrated the internet into my daily routine. Each day after school, I'm assigned to read or find out something interesting about a certain subject. Now I'm able to pop on my computer and find exactly what I need instead of walking all the way to the library. Also, when I found my information at libraries, my local library tended not to have the correct book that I need for my research. Then, I'd have to find a different library to get my information! With the internet, I can find anything I want or need without going through too much trouble!

Now, I have more free time from school work and am still getting great grades... all thanks to the internet! I can't imagine having to read through hundreds of books just to

find a little more than a paragraph of  
data. Please give the internet  
a try... I'm sure you'll love it!

# Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

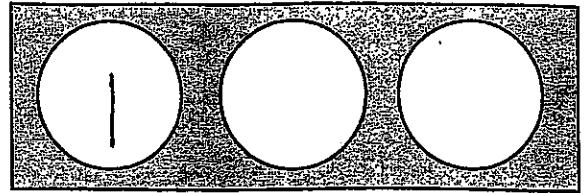
**START ESSAY HERE**

Out of all the things that are fun to do... I'd say video-games are number one. They are very fun today and sometimes get you excited when you finally beat the hardest part in that one videogame that you've been playing. You can buy video-games at many stores such as GameStop, GameCrazy, EB Games, etc.. When you buy a videogame you'll play until you beat it, and you'll probably keep on playing it because it's so fun!

Videogames are games that you put in a videogame system such as Xbox 360, Play Station, Nintendo, etc. They come in discs or chips, usually discs. Videogames usually come in chips when it's a handheld. To play them, you need a controller. Controllers have action buttons, such as A, B, X, or Y. They also have buttons such as pause. The pause button pauses the game. Controllers also may have analog sticks, analog sticks are things on your controller that go up like a stick, and at the top is a circular pad that your fingers, analog sticks move in a circular motion. Wireless controllers are good too, they have no wires that connect a system and you can play from as far as you want.

Videogames work by the controller. If I'm playing a game, I press a button, That goes to the video game system, the disc reads it and the character on my game does the action. That came from the controller, lets say I press "A" and my character jumps.

# Writing Sample



Do not write in this box.

START ESSAY HERE

When I woke up I went  
outside and played with my R.C. helicopter 3000  
and I pushed the red button on the controller.  
And the rotor went inside and wings came out  
of the sides. And engines then the controller turns  
different and it can go far because the signals  
run through the satellites. And it has a camera also.

A monitor and it would make life easier because  
it won't get stuck in trees and if the agencies  
like the FBI or CIA or Area 51 had them they'd  
be able to follow a killer or unidentified  
object so that cops or soldiers won't get killed.  
From following and it has claws so it can  
grab things like people so if there's a flood, Earth  
quake or an eruption, it can save people and put them in safe places.

And it has a med kit inside and carries people  
to a safe location and they can be used  
as decoys and the army can use them as  
support or weapons and it would make life

so easy and people can use it to teleport to the  
store and any where you want to go it  
would make life easier and thats it. Because  
theres nothing more because thats it and I  
had fun

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Expository Anchor Papers: Tech Tool

Title	Score	Notes
<p>“There are many “tech tools” I use all the time...”</p>	<p>4</p>	<p><i>Well-organized and informative explanation of a “tool that I literally couldn’t live without”: a pump. Expository writing that corresponds to a 4 Advanced in the following ways:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction moves from many “tech tools” that the writer could “live without” to the one that this writer considers indispensable. This is an effective and engaging way to begin. Readers want to learn more about this pump.</li> <li>• Writing is organized around a succinct explanation of how the pump works, how the writer learned about the pump and why it’s so important. The writer is an expert on this tech tool and can provide relevant and specific information to develop the description and explanation.</li> <li>• Specific vocabulary (<i>insulin, tubing, glucose, vibrates, program</i>) makes operation of pump clear; strategically-varied sentence types provide details, express enthusiasm, describe background and history, address reader directly (final paragraph)</li> <li>• Writing shows clear, confident control of writing conventions though there are a few minor errors</li> </ul>
<p>“In my opinion, the internet..”</p>	<p>3</p>	<p><i>Writer identifies the internet as a useful tech tool and takes some risks in selecting a service rather than a concrete object which is easier to describe. Organized presentation of information corresponds to a 3 Proficient:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction presents internet as topic</li> <li>• Writing explains versatility of internet and briefly describes how the internet works; personal experience with tech tool is engaging</li> <li>• Writer addresses reader directly and in third person which may be inconsistent for some readers</li> <li>• Language is fluent and conversational; sentence types vary</li> <li>• Several errors but they do not interfere with meaning</li> </ul>
<p>“Out of all the things that are fun to do...”</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><i>Writing about video games by an expert, so details are relevant and specific. This piece corresponds to a 2 Developing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main idea (“video games are fun”) is presented at the beginning of the piece and writer’s enthusiasm is evident</li> <li>• Most of essay consists of details (some relating to each other) about video games, almost an inventory of everything the writer know about them; ideas do not appear to be organized in any particular way and there is no conclusion</li> <li>• General vocabulary; mostly complete sentences</li> <li>• No distracting errors in mechanics</li> </ul>
<p>“When I woke up..”</p>	<p>1</p>	<p><i>A “1” that is Emerging because although the piece includes lots of information, it is difficult to determine the topic:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topic is difficult to identify: is it a toy? A camera?</li> <li>• Writing is presented in paragraphs that are not topic driven</li> <li>• Sentences include many mistakes and make meaning unclear</li> <li>• Many errors in conventions make this piece difficult to understand</li> </ul>

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