

FOR TEACHERS ONLY

The University of the State of New York
REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

ELA

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Monday, January 22, 2018—9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only

SCORING KEY AND RATING GUIDE

Mechanics of Rating

Updated information regarding the rating of this examination may be posted on the New York State Education Department’s web site during the rating period. Check this web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/> and select the link “Scoring Information” for any recently posted information regarding this examination. This site should be checked before the rating process for this examination begins and several times throughout the Regents Examination period.

The following procedures are to be used for rating papers in the Regents Examination in English Language Arts. More detailed directions for the organization of the rating process and procedures for rating the examination are included in the *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examination in English Language Arts*.

Scoring the Multiple-Choice Questions

For this exam all schools must use uniform scannable answer sheets provided by the regional scanning center or large-city scanning center. The scoring key for this exam is provided below. **If the student’s responses for the multiple-choice questions are being hand scored prior to being scanned, the scorer must be careful not to make any marks on the answer sheet except to record the scores in the designated score boxes. Marks elsewhere on the answer sheet will interfere with the accuracy of the scanning.**

Before scannable answer sheets are machine scored, several samples must be both machine and manually scored to ensure the accuracy of the machine-scoring process. All discrepancies must be resolved before student answer sheets are machine scored. When machine scoring is completed, a sample of the scored answer sheets must be scored manually to verify the accuracy of the machine-scoring process.

Correct Answers				
Part 1				
1 3	6 2	10 1	15 4	20 1
2 1	7 3	11 2	16 1	21 2
3 4	8 4	12 4	17 3	22 4
4 2	9 1	13 2	18 1	23 2
5 1		14 3	19 3	24 2

Rating of Essay and Response Questions

- (1) In training raters to score student essays and responses for each part of the examination, follow the procedures outlined below:

Introduction to the Tasks

- Raters read the task and summarize it.
- Raters read the passages or passage and plan a response to the task.
- Raters share response plans and summarize expectations for student responses.

Introduction to the Rubric and Anchor Papers

- Trainer reviews rubric with reference to the task.
- Trainer reviews procedures for assigning holistic scores (i.e., by matching evidence from the response to the language of the rubric and by weighing all qualities equally).
- Trainer leads review of each anchor paper and commentary. (*Note:* Anchor papers are ordered from high to low within each score level.)

Practice Scoring Individually

- Raters score a set of five practice papers individually. Raters should score the five papers independently without looking at the scores provided after the five papers.
- Trainer records scores and leads discussion until raters feel comfortable enough to move on to actual scoring. (Practice papers for Parts 2 and 3 only contain scores, not commentaries.)

- (2) When actual rating begins, each rater should record his or her individual rating for a student's essay and response on the rating sheets provided in the *Information Booklet*, *not* directly on the student's essay or response or answer sheet. Do *not* correct the student's work by making insertions or changes of any kind.
- (3) Both the 6-credit essay and the 4-credit response must be rated by at least two raters; a third rater will be necessary to resolve scores that differ by more than one point. **Teachers may *not* score their own students' answer papers.** The scoring coordinator will be responsible for coordinating the movement of papers, calculating a final score for each student's essay or response, and recording that information on the student's answer paper.

Schools are not permitted to rescore any of the open-ended questions on any Regents Exam after each question has been rated the required number of times as specified in the rating guide, regardless of the final exam score. Schools are required to ensure that the raw scores have been added correctly and that the resulting scale score has been determined accurately.



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

New York State Regents Examination in English Language Arts

Part 2 Rubric

Writing From Sources: Argument

Criteria	6 Essays at this Level:	5 Essays at this Level:	4 Essays at this Level:	3 Essays at this Level:	2 Essays at this Level:	1 Essays at this Level:
Content and Analysis: the extent to which the essay conveys complex ideas and information clearly and accurately in order to support claims in an analysis of the texts	-introduce a precise and insightful claim, as directed by the task -demonstrate in-depth and insightful analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims	-introduce a precise and thoughtful claim, as directed by the task -demonstrate thorough analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims	-introduce a precise claim, as directed by the task -demonstrate appropriate and accurate analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims	-introduce a reasonable claim, as directed by the task -demonstrate some analysis of the texts, but insufficiently distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims	-introduce a claim -demonstrate confused or unclear analysis of the texts, failing to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims	-do not introduce a claim -do not demonstrate analysis of the texts
Command of Evidence: the extent to which the essay presents evidence from the provided texts to support analysis	-present ideas fully and thoughtfully, making highly effective use of a wide range of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis -demonstrate proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material	-present ideas clearly and accurately, making effective use of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis -demonstrate proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material	-present ideas sufficiently, making adequate use of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis -demonstrate proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material	-present ideas briefly, making use of some specific and relevant evidence to support analysis -demonstrate inconsistent citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material	-present ideas inconsistently and/or inaccurately, in an attempt to support analysis, making use of some evidence that may be irrelevant -demonstrate little use of citations to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material	-present little or no evidence from the texts -do not make use of citations
Coherence, Organization, and Style: the extent to which the essay logically organizes complex ideas, concepts, and information using formal style and precise language	-exhibit skillful organization of ideas and information to create a cohesive and coherent essay -establish and maintain a formal style, using sophisticated language and structure	-exhibit logical organization of ideas and information to create a cohesive and coherent essay -establish and maintain a formal style, using fluent and precise language and sound structure	-exhibit acceptable organization of ideas and information to create a coherent essay -establish and maintain a formal style, using precise and appropriate language and structure	-exhibit some organization of ideas and information to create a mostly coherent essay -establish but fail to maintain a formal style, using primarily basic language and structure	-exhibit inconsistent organization of ideas and information, failing to create a coherent essay -lack a formal style, using some language that is inappropriate or imprecise	-exhibit little organization of ideas and information -are minimal, making assessment unreliable -use language that is predominantly incoherent, inappropriate, or copied directly from the task or texts
Control of Conventions: the extent to which the essay demonstrates command of conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling	-demonstrate control of conventions with essentially no errors, even with sophisticated language	-demonstrate control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors only when using sophisticated language	-demonstrate partial control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension	-demonstrate emerging control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors that hinder comprehension	-demonstrate a lack of control of conventions, exhibiting frequent errors that make comprehension difficult	-are minimal, making assessment of conventions unreliable

- An essay that addresses fewer texts than required by the task can be scored no higher than a 3.
- An essay that is a personal response and makes little or no reference to the task or texts can be scored no higher than a 1.
- An essay that is totally copied from the task and/or texts with no original student writing must be scored a 0.
- An essay that is totally unrelated to the task, illegible, incoherent, blank, or unrecognizable as English must be scored a 0.

As the world approaches the threat of fossil fuel depletion, many scramble to find new sources of energy to compensate for the loss. The United States uses unbelievable amounts of oil and gas in various parts of Average American life (e.g., fueling automobiles, heating homes). Algae has proven itself to be a ^{dependable} source of energy worth considering in the crazed search for biofuels. Several attributes of the plant qualify it to replace fossil fuels although some have their reservations about readily moving forward in a plan to use the biofuel in lieu of petroleum.

It is impossible to deny that the growth of algae is incredibly simple and hardly demanding. Algae can be grown just about anywhere if given ample water, sunlight, and nutrients, leaving more land available for the cultivation of crops (Text 1, lines 20-22). The vast amounts of algae produced also yield more energy than most sources which are currently being used for oil (Text 2, line 3). For these reasons, the use of algae has the potential to give energy companies more "bang for their bucks" while also ^{pacifying} ~~making~~ environmentalists ~~happy~~ by conserving land and using cleaner oil.

Some argue that the production of biofuel from algae is too costly and could never compete with fossil fuels economically. However, some day these fossil fuels will not exist in enough abundance to compete with any alternative sources of energy (Text 4, lines 28-30). Therefore, looking at the matter more practically, algae is able to produce greater amounts of high-energy fuel for lower costs than most other plants capable of producing biofuel. The cost also accounts for the vast amount of time needed to form the petroleum that is typically drilled out of the earth's surface. Algae is convenient and can be made into ready-to-use crude oil through a process called hydrothermal liquefaction that some have been able to accomplish in just 30 minutes (Text 3, lines 2-6).

Another contention against the production of biofuel from algae concerns the plant's need for large supplies of phosphorus during growth. Although phosphorus is not a widely available resource, there are ways of providing it via reuse. Once the pond scum is made into crude oil to be refined and used, various

other products are ~~available~~ left over such as nutrient-rich water. The water left out of the crude oil contains phosphorus from the algae used and can be given back to algae ponds as fertilizer (Text 3, lines 29-30). The reuse of the water makes algae an even more practical and profitable fuel.

Lastly, some ^{biofuel} critics claim that algae production requires unreasonable amounts of water needed for other activities. This claim is nearly groundless when confronted with the fact that algae does not need fresh water to develop. Water unsuitable for crops and human consumption can be utilized just as well (Text 2, line 38). Waste-water and water with high concentrations of salt can also be added to algae ponds.

Nations with high demands for fossil fuels need to develop viable alternatives for fossil fuels before they cease to exist. The use of algae biofuel is well on its way to replacing harsh fossil fuels. Algae is a practical choice for consumers, economists, and even environmentalists.

Anchor Level 6-A

The essay introduces a precise and insightful claim, as directed by the task (*Algae has proven itself to be a dependable source of energy worth considering in the crazed search for biofuels. Several attributes of the plant qualify it to replace fossil fuels*). The essay demonstrates in-depth and insightful analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*It is impossible to deny that the growth of algae is incredibly simple and hardly demanding and the use of algae has the potential to give energy companies more “bang for their bucks” while also pacifying environmentalists by conserving land and using cleaner oil*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*Some argue that the production of biofuel from algae is too costly and could never compete with fossil fuels economically. However, some day these fossil fuels will not exist in enough abundance to compete with any alternative sources of energy*). The essay presents ideas fully and thoughtfully, making highly effective use of a wide range of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*The vast amounts of algae produced also yield more energy than most sources which are currently being used for oil and Algae is convenient and can be made into ready-to-use crude oil through a process called hydrothermal liquification*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(Text 1, lines 20-22) and (Text 3, lines 2-6)]. The essay exhibits skillful organization of ideas and information to create a cohesive and coherent essay, with an opening paragraph that states the claim, recognizes the existence of *reservations* regarding the use of algae and establishes a focus on algae’s qualifications to replace fossil fuels, then presents a second paragraph of support for the use of algae, followed by three paragraphs of counterclaim recognition and rebuttal, and concluding with a summary paragraph (*Algae is a practical choice for consumers, economists, and even environmentalists*). The essay establishes and maintains a formal style, using sophisticated language and structure (*Although phosphorus is not a widely available resource, there are ways of providing it via reuse and The reuse of the water makes algae an even more practical and profitable fuel*). The essay demonstrates control of conventions with essentially no errors, even with sophisticated language.

One of the biggest issues of our time is our need for a reliable source of energy to fuel the increasingly technologically-dependent world. Fossil fuels have been the answer since the industrial revolution, but since then the main goal has been to discover a new, less finite, method to run our machines. Scientists have looked everywhere for a possible miracle solution to the problems, caused by the lack of an infinite supply of fossil fuels and the impact it has on the environment, and one possibility discovered has been the use of algae as fuel. This would certainly be the answer to all our problems, as algae can be grown quickly and repeatedly, so it can be guaranteed the supply will never run out. However, until new tactics are discovered that would make the process less expensive, and decrease the amount of resources it needs, turning algae into fuel is not a realistic solution to our problems.

In order to understand the possible drawbacks that the algae biofuel industry would cause, one must first examine the human race's need for immediate relief from the problems that oil has created within the environment and on the economy. Algae lacks the proper commercial-scale production facilities to become a realistic solution to our problems (Text 2, lines 6 and 7). Even though this idea is decades old, it still hasn't been able to garner the proper and necessary support because it is known that currently the cons outweigh the pros. One issue of high importance is the enormous amount of water that is required to turn algae into an energy source (Text 2, line 30). Although some algae is able to use saltwater or wastewater, that isn't the only resource it needs. In order to transform algae into petroleum, it requires phosphorus.

whose reserves are expected to be "completely depleted in 50 to 100 years" (Text 1, lines 46 and 47). This fact makes it simply impossible for algae to be a viable candidate in the biofuel industry unless significant changes can be made in its production.

In addition to requiring large amounts of space and natural resources, the production of algae as fuel is also incredibly expensive. In 2010, it was estimated that "producing oil from algae grown in ponds at scale would cost between \$240 and \$332 a barrel, far higher than current petroleum prices" (Text 4, lines 31 and 32). Oil has become such an integral part of the world economy, and algae simply could not compete for that reason. It hasn't yet proven that it has the potential to be lucrative enough to gain financial supporters, and this constant circle is inhibiting algae from being able to become a reasonable source of energy that could fulfill our needs as a society. Fuels like corn oil ~~require~~ require less energy and water, and are less complex to produce. (Text 1, lines 35-38).

Although it would be incredible to be able to depend on algae for our energy needs, the aforementioned truths make it impossible until the process can evolve. As it stands now, the production of an algae-based energy source would serve as a drain upon our natural resources such as water, phosphorous and land as well as upon our economy.

Anchor Level 6–B

The essay introduces a precise and insightful claim, as directed by the task (*until new tactics are discovered that would make the process less expensive, and decrease the amount of resources it needs, turning algae into fuel is not a realistic solution to our problems*). The essay demonstrates in-depth and insightful analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*Algae lacks the proper commercial-scale production facilities to become a realistic solution to our problems* and *This fact makes it simply impossible for algae to be a viable candidate in the biofuel industry unless significant changes can be made in its production*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims. The essay presents ideas fully and thoughtfully, making highly effective use of a wide range of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*One issue of high importance is the enormous amount of water that is required to turn algae into an energy source* and *In order to transform algae into petroleum, it requires phosphorus whose reserves are expected to be “completely depleted in 50 to 100 years”* and *Fuels like corn oil require less energy and water, and are less complex to produce*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(Text 2, line 30) and (Text 4, lines 31 and 32)]. The essay exhibits skillful organization of ideas and information to create a cohesive and coherent essay, with an opening paragraph that introduces the topic, recognizes positive aspects of algae, and establishes the claim, followed by two paragraphs addressing negative aspects of using algae for fuel and discounting counterclaims (*Although some algae is able to use saltwater or waste-water, that isn't the only resource it needs*), and a summative conclusion that cautions that *the production of an algae-based energy source would serve as a drain upon our natural resources such as water, phosphorous and land as well as upon our economy*. The essay establishes and maintains a formal style, using sophisticated language and structure (*Fossil fuels have been the answer since the industrial revolution, but since then the main goal has been to discover a new, less finite, method to run our machines*). The essay demonstrates control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors (*problems, caused; However until; problems, that; water, and are*) only when using sophisticated language.

In the modern world, energy sufficiency has emerged as a prevalent issue, and there are lots of different solutions. Some ways to address the energy problem have included solar energy, windmills, or even nuclear energy. One of the most recent solutions to emerge is the use of Agricultural-Based Biofuels, especially algae. Algae and other ABBs have huge potential to help solve the world's energy problems. If these issues increase in severity, algae could be a great potential way to solve it.

Algae is superior to petroleum in multiple ways; it can be grown almost anywhere. Algae can be grown in a pond or tube or even a large bag if all the other factors are correct (Text 1, line 23). Soil and fresh water are not even necessary in the creation of the potential biofuel, which makes it incredibly easy to grow (Text 1, line 24). Algae could be grown very quickly and with much less effort than many other energy solutions. Text 1 indicates that "algae-based biofuel may use far less land and have a higher energy yield than other biofuel crops" (Text 1, line 35). Algae creates more energy with less resources. In addition, "they could make algae-based fuel for the gasoline equivalent of less than \$5 per gallon" (Text 3, line 36). That is much cheaper than regular gas and would benefit all the gas-buyers in

the world. Algae is incredibly quick and easy to grow; even manure can be used instead of soil! (Text 3, line 38). Algae is a very efficient and beneficial solution to the world's energy problems by being easy to grow, cheap, and having a large energy yield.

Although algae is a good solution and in many ways is better than petroleum, there are some downsides to using algae as a fuel. First of all, its greenhouse emissions are even higher than the petroleum that is currently used (Text 4, line 37).

However, the process of making algae-based fuel offers "the opportunity to use carbon dioxide" (Text 2, lines 4-5). Another concern with algae is that it requires large amounts of phosphorus which is harder to get and not very common (Text 4, lines 42-43).

Although this is true, fossil fuels are also running out, so using phosphorus to make algae-based fuel may just be necessary.

Algae has a lot of potential to be the solution to the energy problems of Earth despite a couple of supposed drawbacks. So even if algae isn't a perfect solution, if our energy problems get worse, then algae would be a fine substitute for oil.

Anchor Level 5–A

The essay introduces a precise and thoughtful claim, as directed by the task (*Algae and other ABBs have huge potential to help solve the world's energy problems*). The essay demonstrates thorough analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*Algae creates more energy with less resources* and *That is much cheaper than regular gas and would benefit all the gas-buyers*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*Although algae is a good solution and in many ways is better than petroleum, there are some down sides to using algae as a fuel and greenhouse emissions are even higher than the petroleum that is currently used ... However, the process of making algae-based fuel offers "the opportunity to use carbon dioxide"*). The essay presents ideas fully and thoughtfully, making highly effective use of a wide range of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*Algae is superior to petroleum in multiple ways; it can be grown almost anywhere and Algae is incredibly quick and easy to grow; even manure can be used instead of soil!*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(Text 1, line 23) and (Text 3, line 38)]. The essay exhibits logical organization of ideas and information to create a cohesive and coherent essay, opening with a paragraph that introduces the energy problem and establishes a pro claim, followed by one paragraph of support, and one that addresses and refutes two counterclaims, with a concluding paragraph that reaffirms the claim (*Algae has a lot of potential to be the solution to the energy problems of Earth*). The essay establishes and maintains a formal style, using fluent and precise language and sound structure (*In the modern world, energy sufficiency has emerged as a prevalent issue and Algae is a very efficient and beneficial solution to the world's energy problems by being easy to grow, cheap, and having a large energy yield*). The essay demonstrates control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors (*issues ... it, it's* for "its", *phosphorus which*) only when using sophisticated language.

Today's computerized society demands an increasing amount of energy, in order to ~~fuel~~ fuel our fast-paced lives. For decades, fossil fuels have provided energy for this ~~increasing~~ modernizing industrialism. What happens when these ^{finite} fossil fuels runs out? ~~How~~ Researchers have experimented with solutions for the energy crisis; and may have found one through algae.

Both support and criticism follows each new scientific ~~improvement~~ advancement. Critics of algae research claims that "rising demand for biofuels shifts biomass feedstocks and arable land away from use for other purposes." (Text 2, lines 25-26). Their concerns are aimed towards the increasing demand ~~of~~ for food to feed an increasing population. Fortunately, research shows that "algae can be grown in places unsuitable for food cultivation." (Text 1, line 20). Instead of taking up space for possible food production, algae can be produced in areas that would otherwise be vacant.

Another benefit of using algae as biofuel includes producing fuel from a substance that ~~is~~ ^{acts as a} waste. The issue ^{with} ~~is~~ using food as biofuel is that human civilization can't ~~also~~ afford to waste food on fuel when starving populations continues to exist worldwide. By researching a use for algae as fuel, technology may soon be able to find uses in "feedstocks that cities otherwise have to pay to get rid of." (Text 3, line 47). By finding uses for wastes

such as sewage and algae, pollutions from these wastes will decrease. Algae can serve as a solution for the energy crisis while eliminating itself as a waste.

~~Algae~~ Algae, unlike fossil fuels, is a renewable source of energy. The problem with today's fuel is that "an oil field will deplete eventually, while an algae pond would be sustainable indefinitely." (Text 4, lines 29-30). The ^{quality} ~~property~~ of being reusable makes algae biofuel superior to today's pollution-full fossil fuels. The reason why the superior alternative ~~to fossil fuels~~ fails to be commercially produced lies simply behind the cost. Technology, overtime, will aid in lowering the production of biofuel from algae, but for the present day, algae ~~cannot~~ stay ~~so~~ produced at very low rates. Eventually, this infinite power source, will be worth the cost if fossil fuels deplete completely.

The present day energy crisis is in search of a solution to replace the definite amount of fossil fuels that diminishes each day. Algae has the quality of being renewable and can also be grown in areas ~~vacant~~ that are otherwise vacant due to their non-arable quantities. This organic substance has the power to fix the energy problem of ~~our~~ ~~never~~ ~~stopping~~ the society that never sleeps.

Anchor Level 5–B

The essay introduces a precise and thoughtful claim, as directed by the task (*Researchers have experimented with solutions for the energy crisis; and may have found one through algae*). The essay demonstrates thorough analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*The issue with using food as biofuel is that human civilization can't afford to waste food on fuel when starving populations continues to exist worldwide and Algae can serve as a solution for the energy crisis while eliminating itself as a waste*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*Critics of algae research claims that "rising demand for biofuels shifts biomass feedstocks and arable land away from use for other purposes"*). The essay presents ideas clearly and accurately, making effective use of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*Fortunately, research shows that "algae can be grown in places unsuitable for food cultivation"* and *By researching a use for algae as fuel, technology may soon be able to find uses in "feedstock that cities otherwise have to pay to get rid of"* and *Algae, unlike fossil fuels, is a renewable source of energy*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(*Text 1, line 20*) and (*Text 3, line 47*)]. The essay exhibits logical organization of ideas and information to create a cohesive and coherent essay that introduces the issue and suggests a pro claim, followed by three body paragraphs, one that presents and refutes a counterclaim, and two that support the claim, and concludes with a paragraph that reiterates the claim (*This organic substance has the power to fix the energy problem of the society that never sleeps*). The essay establishes and maintains a formal style, using fluent and precise language and sound structure (*Today's computerized society demands an increasing amount of energy, in order to fuel our fast-paced lives*). The essay demonstrates control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors [*fuels runs; crisis; and; cultivation.*" (*Text 1, line 20*).; *pollution-full; overtime*] only when using sophisticated language.

The world is facing an energy crisis. Conflict and wars are ubiquitous in our history due to humanity's greed and thirst for sources of energy. Americans especially have a need to fill their machines with that precious, black ambrosia. Cars, trucks, and planes get bigger and bulkier, a status symbol for superiority and machismo. They guzzle gasoline like a man who'd been lost in desert that finally found his oasis. More conflict and more war will continue, unless this energy crisis is solved.

Algae may be a possible solution. Distinguished professors such as Steve Kay (Text 4, Lines 6-9) firmly believe that pond scum could be the key to solving the crisis. Professionals are desperately looking for efficient and renewable energy; it seems as though Algae has potential. Perhaps the most useful trait is that algae can be cultivated almost anywhere (Text 1, Lines 19-21). It doesn't require arable land like other crops like corn. It can also be turned into several different types of fuel; it can become jetfuel, ~~biofuel~~, biodiesel, ~~and~~ ethanol, and electricity, ~~not~~ to mention how easy it is to grow; ~~the~~ algae is notoriously unpicky when it comes to

land and water. It can grow in scummy ponds, brackish and salty water, and water with pollutants. Even its byproducts of hydrogen, oxygen, and CO_2 can be utilized as an energy source. (Text 3, Lines 26-28).

Unfortunately, it doesn't come without its drawbacks. Algae can't compete with fossil fuels in this day and age. Algae fuels made yearly are only a fraction of daily outputs of fossil fuels. It's just isn't economically sound to make the switch today.

Algae may just be the answer to our prayers. Even if we aren't ready for it today, perhaps a few years down the line, it will become the most common source of power in America. Perhaps wars will be fought over oceans and scummy water plants.

Anchor Level 5-C

The essay introduces a precise and thoughtful claim, as directed by the task (*The world is facing an energy crisis. Conflict and wars are ubiquitous in our history due to humanity's greed and thirst for sources of energy and Algae may be a possible solution*). The essay demonstrates appropriate and accurate analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*Professionals are desperately looking for efficient and renewable energy and Perhaps the most useful trait is that algae can be cultivated almost anywhere*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*Unfortunately, it doesn't come without its drawbacks. Algae can't compete with fossil fuels in this day and age*). The essay presents ideas sufficiently, making adequate use of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*It doesn't require arable land like other crops like corn and It can also be turned into several different types of fuel*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(Text 4, Lines 6-9) and (Text 3, Lines 26-28)]. The essay exhibits logical organization of ideas and information to create a cohesive and coherent essay by opening with an introduction that sets the tone for the pro claim, which is supported in the second paragraph, followed by a third paragraph, which addresses the counterclaim, and a conclusion that reaffirms the claim (*Algae may just be the answer to our prayers*). The essay establishes and maintains a formal style, using fluent and precise language and sound structure (*Cars, trucks, and planes get bigger and bulkier, a status symbol for superiority and machismo and It just isn't economically sound to make the switch today*). The essay demonstrates control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors (*continue, unless; professors; Professionals*) only when using sophisticated language.

Throughout human history, people have been dependent on resources from the environment. This dependency has recently increased based on the need for fuel for transportation. However, scientists have realized that current fuel sources will be infeasible within a century. Algae biofuel has the potential to be the solution to the world's energy problems.

Algae is ideal as an energy source because it is so easy to produce. It can be grown in places unsuitable for food production (Text 1, Line 20) and can be grown at any time of year (Text 1, Line 28). The production of algae could even help address problems with sewage disposal. Algae is the most efficient biofuel, with higher biomass yields per acre of cultivation (Text 2, Line 4). It is also an improvement on current fuel because unlike oil, an algae pond would be sustainable indefinitely (Text 4, Lines 29-30).

There are a few potential drawbacks with algae biofuels, but they are relatively minor compared to issues with current sources. The main concern is the amount of resources required for algae

production, specifically CO₂ and water, two of the most abundant materials on the planet. The CO₂ could come from stationary sources (Text 2, line 5) and potentially help address global warming concerns. The quantity of water needed could come from the ocean, for some algae is able to use brackish water (Text 2, line 34). It could also come from sewage (Text 1, line 34 and Text 3, line 40).

Algae could easily solve the world's incoming energy crisis. It is easy to make, requires little land space, and the resources for it are available. Humans will soon find themselves without oil, and they should turn to algae to supplement their needs.

Anchor Level 4-A

The essay introduces a precise claim, as directed by the task (*Algae biofuel has the potential to be the solution to the world's energy problems*). The essay demonstrates appropriate and accurate analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*Algae ... is easy to make, requires little land space, and the resources for it are available*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*There are a few potential drawbacks with algae biofuels, but they are relatively minor compared to issues with current sources*). The essay presents ideas sufficiently, making adequate use of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*Algae is the most efficient biofuel, with higher biomass yields per acre of cultivation and The quantity of water needed could come from the ocean, for some algae is able to use brackish water*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(Text 1, Line 20) and (Text 2, Line 5)] although fails to use quotation marks with direct quotes. The essay exhibits acceptable organization of ideas and information to create a coherent essay, first introducing the problem of our dependency on fuel sources and a claim favoring the use of algae as a solution, followed by one body paragraph discussing why *algae is ideal as an energy source* and a second discussing its *few potential drawbacks*, concluding with a summation. The essay establishes and maintains a formal style, using fluent and precise language and sound structure (*The main concern is the amount of resources required for algae production, specifically CO₂ and water, two of the most abundant materials on the planet*). The essay demonstrates control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors (*dependancy; because unlike; oil, an ... indefinitely*) only when using sophisticated language.

In the U.S.A. today you probably ~~take~~^{take} a lot of what you have for granted, people use cars, heat homes, and turn ~~the~~ lights on and off. This could all end soon though due to the declining amounts of non-renewable energy sources and fossil fuels. Fortunately there is a solution in sight. The name of that solution is Algae, a plant that almost everyone knows. How it can help will change the world! Algae can make energy in a clean and reusable way.

There are people in the world that think using Algae as an energy source is a bad idea. One of the things they worry about is that "its production also requires more energy and water" than other kinds of fuel (text 1, line 36). This is true, but the good thing about Algae, unlike the other sources, is "Algae is able to use waste- or brackish water" (text 2, line 34). This helps so we don't need to use precious drinking water. ~~to~~ Another ~~thing~~ thing people say about Algae energy is that "It also has higher greenhouse gas emissions." (text 1, line 37). This gas can be useful though! The gasses can be turned "into a stream of synthetic natural gas and burned to generate heat or electricity." (text 3, lines 27-28) As bad as people try to make Algae energy seem, both of these "bad" things can help keep the planet cleaner and help humans thrive.

There are reasons that Algae makes the best plant choice for energy. The first being that Algae can be "grown in places unsuitable for food cultivation." (text 1, line 30) Unlike most food crops, Algae can be grown in almost any lightly polluted water and can even be grown in bags if the bacteria is right for it. This can help ~~people~~ people use land for things like food crops and animal raising. Another reason why Algae is

the best plant choice is it "can produce more energy per acre than any land crop." (text 1, lines 25-26) This will help so people know they are using the top choice and not waisting any precious crops. If this isint the best plant for energy, then what is?

As time constraint is a big factor in the oil industry right now, Algae is here to save the day and passably the future! Algae can be "grown at any time of year" (text 1, line 28) so energy supply can be constant and ready as needed. It also is good because it grows and reproduces fast. Unlike fossil fuels which take a long time to get ahold of and purify Algae only takes 30 minutes to pressure cook. (text 3, line 3) As oil demand increases rapidly, in the short time it takes to make that wonderful green plant into oil, we will be able to keep up with the demand. Thanks to Algae we can keep energy prices low and obtain it quickly.

Algae energy has so many benefits that the world, people, and energy ~~industry~~ industry could really benefit from. If we use this source of energy prices could be cheaper, the world can be cleaner, and there can be more land for food sources. Algae is the best choice to solve the energy ~~isnt~~ crisis in the world.

Anchor Level 4-B

The essay introduces a precise claim, as directed by the task (*Algae can make energy in a clean and reusable way*). The essay demonstrates appropriate and accurate analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*Algae energy has so many benefits that the world, people, and energy industry could really benefit from*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*There are people in the world that think using Algae as an energy source is a bad idea ... they worry ... that "its production also requires more energy and water"* and *This is true, but ... unlike the other sources ... "Algae is able to use waste – or brackish water"*). The essay presents ideas sufficiently, making adequate use of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*Algae can be "grown in places unsuitable for food cultivation."* ... *Unlike most food crops, Algae can be grown in almost any lightly polluted water and Algae can be "grown at any time of year" ... so energy supply can be constant and ready as needed*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(text 1, line 37) and (text 3, lines 27-28)]. The essay exhibits acceptable organization of ideas and information to create a coherent essay, with an introduction that presents energy concerns and the claim, followed by one paragraph that presents and refutes a counterclaim and two paragraphs that support why *Algae makes the best plant choice for energy*, and concludes with a summation. The essay establishes and maintains a formal style, using precise and appropriate language and structure (*there is a solution in sight. The name of that solution is Algae, a plant that almost everyone knows*) that is sometimes colloquial (*If this isint the best ... then what is?* and *Thanks to Algae*). The essay demonstrates partial control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors [*sorses; fules; Fortanintly; water.*" (text 2, line 34); *Planit; energy. The; waisting; isint; benefits*] that do not hinder comprehension.

There are many concerns on the topic of oil use. Since oil is becoming more scarce, many are leaning towards using algae. ^{even} Though ~~now~~ there are positives to using algae instead of oil, there are ^{numerous amount} ~~many~~ of problems that come with it. Therefore, algae could not be the solution to our energy problem.

One of the main reasons as to why algae is not the solution is because algae requires a lot of energy and water. In text 2, it states, "its production also requires more energy and water than plant sources such as corn" (Text 1 line 36-37). Since algae requires a lot of energy and water to mass produce ~~and the idea is that algae~~ more than crops, it can pose a problem to the country it is growing in. It can almost not set to the needs ^{of the whole country} if the area it is growing in or the requirements are not met. This ~~can~~ can pose a problem ^{for} mass producing. Algae not only requires a lot, but many of these requirements to grow algae is on the edge of availability. ~~Algae~~ Algae requires a ~~lot~~ large amount of phosphorus as fertilizer, but phosphorus is on the peak of availability (Text 1 line 42-44). Since the main ingredient to cultivating algae is slowly diminishing, algae is not suitable to replace oil. In order to replace fossil fuels, the certain resource must be plentiful and not scarce.

Algae can also compete with areas of agriculture. Since Algae requires both water and nutrients, it can inadvertently compete with areas of agriculture if that area has the required land and water sources (Text 2 line 39-41). This can accidentally

damage crops and set off a chain reaction. If the crops are competing with algae, the amount of food produced may decrease and, therefore, hurt the people and the economy. Not only does Algae compete with areas of agriculture is the amount of money needed. There are potential drawbacks to algae growing because of the amount of resources that is required to produce the biofuel and the lack of commercial production facilities (Text 2 line 6-8). This can damage the economy of the country because of the amount of money needed to put into this production because of the requirements being high. Therefore, Algae is not suitable to be used.

Others may disagree and state that it is suitable because it can produce quick. Many state that a solution of algae can transform into crude oil after pressure cooking it for 30 minutes (Text 3 line 2-3). Even though this may be a positive of using algae, algae requires a large amount of resources in order to produce. Plus, in order to produce large amount of algae it may involve genetically modified algae that if ~~escaped from~~ escape into the environment it can be invasive and harmful (Text 2 line 41-44).

Algae should not be used because it provides more problems than positives.

Anchor Level 4–C

The essay introduces a precise claim, as directed by the task (*Even though there are positives to using algae instead of oil, there are numerous amount of problems that come with it. Therefore algae could not be the solution to our energy problem*). The essay demonstrates appropriate and accurate analysis of the texts, as necessary to support the claim (*Since algae requires a lot of energy and water to mass produce more than crops, it can pose a problem to the country it is growing in*) and to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*Others may disagree and state that it is suitable because it can produce quick*). The essay presents ideas sufficiently, making adequate use of specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*Algae requires a large amount of phosphorus as fertilizer, but phosphorus is on the peak of availability and Plus, in order to produce large amount of algae it may involve genetically modified algae that if escape into the environment it can be invasive and harmful*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(Text 1 line 42-44) and (Text 3 line 2-3)]. The essay exhibits acceptable organization of ideas and information to create a coherent essay, with an introduction that establishes the claim, followed by two body paragraphs of support and a conclusion that refutes the counterclaim and ends with a reaffirmation of the claim (*Algae should not be used because it provides more problems than positives*). The essay establishes but fails to maintain a formal style, using primarily basic language and structure (*One of the main reason as to why algae is not the solution is because algae requires a lot of energy and water and This can damage the economy ... because of the requirements being high*) that is occasionally imprecise (*concerns on the topic and not set to the needs*). The essay demonstrates emerging control of conventions, exhibiting occasional errors (*numerous amount, Therefore algae, One of the main reason, crops it, a lot but many ... is on, availability, certian, inadvertently, produce quick, environment*) that hinder comprehension.