

### Example of Student Response - Grade 7 FSA Short Writing

Score	Comments
4	The writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- shows insight and originality</li><li>- uses engaging details</li><li>- uses a variety of sentence structures</li><li>- has a strong introduction</li></ul>

## Written Work

### "Saving the Environment"

Remember to double-space your writing.

The environment was a beautiful place with rolling hills, and pristine landscapes. Well you don't see much of that anymore, there are no more trickling streams; for mans pollutants have made the clear rippling water brown, and oozing with muck. Some naturalists are trying to think of different ways to provide people with a natural fertilizer, and pesticide that doesn't involve turning the worlds most spotless environment into a garbage dump heaving with trash. You don't have to be a naturalist to make a difference. It is hard to change the past. It is hard to change the future, but although both pose a challenge I will tell you it can be done. One step at a time.

No matter how small you may feel there is always something you can do. For instance, I have a compost bin in my back yard. A compost bin is a great way to start making a difference. Instead of putting your banana peels, pear cores, or even orange peels into the garbage I put them in the compost where they decay, until you can use it for soil. Compost is a great **natural** way to fertilize flowers and grasses. If you were to send your compost off to the major land fills, yes they would still decay but they would be covered with toxins and who knows what weird things people put in the garbage.

I have a hobby of putting up bird houses, this helps the wildlife because they have a place to live, that is readily available. I usually stuff the bird boxes with some hay and include some food. So far the chickadees have taken to using them quite well. I also have a humming bird feeder up all through the winter.

When I am older I will drive an electric car, that or I will take the bus and ride my bike. This helps the environment because there is no gasoline, which is a common greenhouse gas. The worst car for the environment I will drive is a hybrid, which is a car that is half electric.

In conclusion I would like to say that I am very into the environment and that everybody can make a difference, no matter how small. There are many other possible ways to help other than composting, creating places for animals to live, and providing them with the proper nutrition when old man winter is snuffing out all the food.

### Example of Student Response - Grade 7 FSA Short Writing

Score	Comments
3	The writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- personal reactions show some insight</li><li>- uses clear and varied language</li><li>- develops in predictable ways</li><li>- flows smoothly</li></ul>

#### Written Work

#### "Saving the Environment"

Remember to double-space your writing.

Saving the environment can start by completing three simple tasks: reduce, reuse, and recycle. What do they mean? Let's start with reduce. When you are grocery shopping and you know that the product you will contains tons of plastic wrapping and extra covers, you can find a better alternative. Do you really need those bulk lollipops? Or when you are in a fast food place like Subway, you can ask for less wrapping. Reducing could be as easy as substituting your plastic bags for tougher, Reusable bags.

Reusing is one of the easiest tasks of them all. Everybody knows that every living child outgrows their clothing eventually. You could reuse by handing down your clothes to younger relatives, or donating them to charity. Throwing your clothing out is such a waste when there are so many starving kids in need of warmth. Now let's move on to recycle.

All recycling takes is a little extra effort. Recycling is a big part of our cities, as you have noticed the big blue bins everywhere. All you have to do is sort through three things: You must have a trash can, recycling bin, and paper recycling. You would be shocked at how much recycling saves our planet.

So please, take the extra step of reducing, reusing, and recycling for our Earth's sake.

**Example of Student Response - Grade 7 FSA Short Writing**

Score	Comments
2	The writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- personal reactions are clear</li><li>- generally straightforward</li><li>- explores some relevant ideas</li><li>- ending is weak</li></ul>

**Written Work**

**"Saving the Environment"**

Remember to double-space your writing.

There are many things I do to save the environment. One of them is taking the school bus.

Taking the school bus is a simple way to help the environment in many ways. First of all, I walk to the bus stop so my parents don't have to drive me anywhere in the morning. Secondly, there are at least twenty other kids that take the school bus. That means that twenty other cars are off the roads. We are saving the

environment, and the ozone layer <sup>just</sup> by taking  
the bus.

Saving the environment can be as  
simple as taking the school bus. Whether  
it's turning off the lights or taking  
the bus, the environment needs our help.

**Example of Student Response - Grade 7 FSA Short Writing**

Score	Comments
1	The writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ideas are not developed</li><li>- lacks relevant detail</li><li>- language is simple</li><li>- ending is abrupt</li></ul>

**Written Work**

**"Saving the Environment"**

Remember to double-space your writing.

Recycling, Recycling is something  
people see as being far to complex  
when it really is something that  
is so simple, everyone should  
be doing it. All it takes is  
putting your juice box in the  
blue bin instead of the black  
bin after lunch