

# NEW YORK STATE COMPONENT RETEST

## ENGLISH COMPONENT A MODULE 5

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2009

### SCORING KEY AND RATING GUIDE

#### Multiple Choice Key

1	2
2	4
3	3
4	4
5	1

## Component A

(used for 2-point responses that refer only to the text)

### Score Point 2

- presents a well-developed paragraph
- provides an appropriate explanation
- supports the explanation with the information from the text
- uses language that is appropriate
- may exhibit errors in conventions that do not hinder comprehension

### Score Point 1

- provides an explanation  
or
- implies an explanation  
or
- has an unclear explanation

AND

- supports the explanation with partial or overly general information from the text
- uses language that may be imprecise or inappropriate
- exhibits errors in conventions that may hinder comprehension

### Score Point 0

- is off topic, incoherent, a copy of the task and/or text, or blank
- demonstrates no understanding of the task/text
- is a personal response

## Component A

(used for 2-point responses that refer to the text and the graphic)

### Score Point 2

- presents a well-developed paragraph addressing the task
- demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic
- supports the explanation with the information from *both* the text and graphic
- uses language that is appropriate
- may exhibit errors in conventions that do not hinder comprehension

### Score Point 1

- provides an explanation  
or
- implies an explanation  
or
- has an unclear explanation

AND

- supports the explanation with partial or overly general information from the text and/or graphic
- uses language that may be imprecise or inappropriate
- exhibits errors in conventions that may hinder comprehension

### Score Point 0

- is off topic, incoherent, a copy of the task and/or text, or blank
- demonstrates no understanding of the task/text
- is a personal response

**Directions:** Read the passage and study the graphic on the following pages. Write your answer to each multiple-choice question on your answer sheet. Then write your responses to questions 6 and 7 in the space provided on your answer sheet. You may use the margins to take notes as you read.

### How to Keep 18 Million People Moving

#### SÃO PAULO OPERATES THE WORLD’S MOST COMPLEX BUS SYSTEM

5 It’s a warm Tuesday night in São Paulo, and as on most nights during rush hour here, a swarm of cars clogs every centimeter of Rebouças Avenue, slowing traffic to a crawl. But inside bus 7598, Carlos Soares holds on firmly to keep his balance as the jolting vehicle whizzes past the congestion. The bus he’s on is one of thousands in this city that run in special lanes that cars are forbidden to use. Convoying one after the other, the buses form a kind of virtual train on tires.

10 “Look at their faces,” says Soares, a 20-year-old video producer, pointing at the drivers stuck nearby. “They’re mad because the buses took one of their lanes. But for us on the bus—we love it.”

15 For the past five decades, congestion has gotten steadily worse in this Brazilian megacity, South America’s largest, with 18.3 million people scattered throughout its metropolitan area. Although Brazil may be better known for the vibrant beaches of Rio de Janeiro or the lush, green Amazon forest, São Paulo is this country’s economic locomotive. So plenty of people have thought long and hard about how to keep the city moving—literally. More subway and commuter rail lines are on the way, but they are coming slowly and at great expense. Seeking alternatives, transportation experts here turned to an option that was already on the streets: the bus.

20 With 26,391 buses, 1908 lines, 34 transfer stations, and 146.5 kilometers of dedicated busways, São Paulo operates what is currently the world’s most complex bus system. Extending from bustling downtown avenues to narrow neighborhood streets, this sprawling network of lines is the basis of public transportation here. One in every five *paulistanos*—as residents of São Paulo are called—hops on a bus every day to go to work, school, or other destinations. Daily bus ridership in the metropolitan area is some 10.5 million passengers.

25 With such people-moving capacity, the entire population of Belgium could ride on São Paulo’s buses over the course of a single day.

30 In a transportation world that has dreamed up such systems as maglev bullet trains and “smart roads” capable of guiding vehicles, bus-based mass transit may appear quite low-tech. But in São Paulo the buses themselves are only the most visible part of a vast operation

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that relies on a number of advanced technologies: computer simulations help plan the bus network, GPS monitoring keeps track of the fleet, and electronic payment streamlines fare collection. And in an experiment to reduce pollutant emissions, later this year São Paulo will test a small number of hydrogen-fuel-cell buses on one of the city's busiest busways.

None of this technology would be of much use without experienced bus engineers, of whom São Paulo has plenty. Over the years this cadre of bus pros has been disseminating its expertise throughout Brazil and beyond. As Pedro Szasz, a consultant in São Paulo and one of the world's top public transportation experts, puts it, "Brazilians are good at soccer, samba, and bus systems."

Other cities have taken notice. Committees from all corners of the globe descend on São Paulo every year to see how folks here run their buses (*ônibus*, in Portuguese). São Paulo, after all, is hardly the only megacity facing megatraffic problems. Los Angeles, Mexico City, and Shanghai are but a few. The waste in time and fuel is enormous. According to the Texas Transportation Institute, in College Station, traffic congestion in 85 U.S. urban areas cost the nation more than US<sup>1</sup> \$63 billion in 2003. The International Association of Public Transport, in Brussels, puts such costs for 15 European countries at 120 billion per year.

How can we prevent cities from choking themselves in traffic and pollution? Experts all agree there's no silver bullet. Cities need a mix of mass transit systems, and designing such systems needs to be a part of a broader urban development plan. With its expansive bus operation, São Paulo is showing that this transportation option has a crucial role in that mix.

The concept of a modern, high-capacity bus system is often called bus rapid transit. BRT differs from conventional bus operations in that the coaches—often newer, more comfortable vehicles—run on dedicated portions of roadways, and stations feature off-vehicle fare collection and slightly elevated platforms to speed up boarding. Proponents say BRT systems have lower construction costs, can be built in a quarter to half the time subways require, and their operating costs are almost always covered by fare collection, eliminating the need for subsidies. BRT also offers more flexibility, because routes can be adjusted as the city grows, different bus types can be deployed, and cars can be allowed to use bus lanes during weekends.

Other cities that have built or are planning BRT systems include Boston, Cape Town, Chicago, Los Angeles, Mexico City, New Delhi, New York City, Ottawa, Paris, and Sydney. There are already 15 BRT systems operating in Asia—including those in Beijing, Jakarta, Nagoya, and Seoul—and 24 others soon to come. All these

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<sup>1</sup> US: US dollars

80 BRT systems may be very different in their design and operation, but  
they attempt to accomplish the same goals. One is getting people to  
use public transportation over private automobiles, thereby improving  
traffic and reducing tailpipe emissions. The other is providing a better  
85 way of getting around for those who don't own cars. In most cities in  
the developing world, the carless are the majority of the population (70  
percent in São Paulo, for example), so implementing an efficient bus  
system is also a matter of social equity.

—Erico Guizzo

Excerpted by permission of *IEEE Spectrum Magazine* (June, 2007).

## Graphic

### Bus Rapid Transit Systems

City	Facility (Systems)	Weekday Bus Riders	AM Peak-Hour, Peak-Direction		SPEEDS (MPH)		Travel Time			Travel Time Savings Total (Min)
			Buses	Riders	Express	All Stop	Before	After	% Reduction <sup>1</sup>	
<b>US/ CANADA</b>										
Charlotte	Independence Blvd. Busway	1,000								5-15
Hartford	New Britain- Hartford Busway	20,000	20-24	1,000	38	32	34.6	20.1	42	14.5
Honolulu	Route A City Express	11,000					35	20	43	15
	Route B City Express									
	Route C Country Express									
Houston	Northwest	6,180	34	1,500	54		50	30	40	20
Los Angeles	San Bernardino Bus HOV Way	18,000	70	2,750		43	48	17	38	31
	Wilshire- Whittier Metro Bus	40,000	30	1,500	14		76	55	28	21
	Miami- S. Dade Busway	12,000	20	800	18	12-14				
New York City	I-495 (NJ) Contra-Flow Lane		650-830	25-35,000	35					18
Ottawa	Transitway System	200,000	180-200	10,000	50	24				
Seattle	Bus Tunnel	46,000	70	4,200		13	15	10	33	5
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>										
Sydney	Liverpool-Paramatta Busway/ Lanes	18,000								60
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>										
Bogotá	TransMilenio Arterial Median Busway	800,000		27,000	19	13			32	
Port Alegre	Farrapos Median Busway	235,000	304	17,500		12-14	24	17	29	7
São Paulo	9 de Julio Median Busway	196,000	220	18-20,000		12				

Source: Adapted from Tables A-9 (pp49-50) and A-10 (p51) from individual case studies. TCRP Report 90 (2003). Transit Cooperative Research Program.

<sup>1</sup> % Reduction: percent reduction in time saved

## Multiple-Choice Questions

**Directions** (1–5): Select the best suggested answer to each question and write its number in the space provided on the answer sheet. The questions may help you think about ideas and information you might want to use in your written responses. You may return to these questions any time you wish.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 According to the passage, the buses in São Paulo can move quickly because they</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) run on hydrogen-fuel-cell batteries</li><li>(2) travel in lanes available only to buses</li><li>(3) travel during off-peak times when traffic is less crowded</li><li>(4) greatly reduce city traffic by carrying a larger number of passengers</li></ul> <p>2 The author mentions that São Paulo uses computer simulations to plan the bus network in order to show that the bus network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) is planned by skilled engineers</li><li>(2) extends through many parts of the city</li><li>(3) carries millions of passengers each day</li><li>(4) uses advanced technology in operating its vehicles</li></ul> <p>3 One advantage of bus systems over rail systems is that bus systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) move greater numbers of people through a city each day</li><li>(2) do not require approval from government agencies</li><li>(3) can be built more quickly than the rail system</li><li>(4) need fewer engineers to plan the system</li></ul> | <p>4 Based on information in the graphic, which percentage shows the amount of time travelers save by using a bus rapid transit system in Port Alegre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) 7%</li><li>(2) 17%</li><li>(3) 24%</li><li>(4) 29%</li></ul> <p>5 Which city has the fewest weekday bus riders?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Charlotte</li><li>(2) Honolulu</li><li>(3) Miami</li><li>(4) Seattle</li></ul> |
|--|---|

### Short-Response Questions

**Directions (6–7):** Write your responses to questions 6 and 7 in the space provided on the answer sheet.

6 In a well-developed paragraph of three to five sentences, explain how bus engineers have used modern technology to improve bus systems in São Paulo. Support your explanation with information from the text.

7 In a well-developed paragraph of three to five sentences, explain how a bus rapid transit system can improve or solve transportation problems in large urban cities. Support your explanation with information from the text AND the graphic.

# **QUESTION #6**

In order for bus engineers to improve bus systems in São Paulo, they use modern technology. For example, they have developed computer simulators to help plan the bus network, making the commute easier to follow. They use GPS monitoring to keep track of the fleet to know where the buses are located. And lastly, they have electronic payment streamlines to easily keep track of the correct bus fare submitted by each passenger. These advances, using technology improve the bus system.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain how bus engineers have used modern technology to improve bus systems in São Paulo (they have developed computer simulators to help plan the bus network, making the commute easier to follow ... use GPS monitoring to keep track of the fleet to know where the buses are). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (missing periods) do not hinder comprehension.

While the buses in Sao Paulo may not be very high-tech, the system that keeps them running is. ~~the~~ Engineers have used technology that includes, but is not limited to: GPS monitoring, computer simulations, and electronic payment. The GPS system keeps track of every bus. The computer simulations map out where buses go and electronic payment systems ensure an easy fare collection process.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain how bus engineers have used modern technology to improve bus systems in São Paulo (*buses ... may not be very high-tech, the system ... is and technology ... includes ... GPS monitoring, computer simulations, and electronic payment ... GPS system keeps track of every bus ... computer simulations map out where buses go and electronic payment systems ensure an easy fare collection process*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 5 - Question # 6

Engineers have come up with new ways to improve the bus system. One way is using computers to plan routes and decrease traffic. Another way is a new fuel source such as the hydrogen-fuel-cell batteries which would cut pollution. Also with an increase of bus riders less traffic and pollution will be created.

**Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by partial information from the text (*using computers to plan routes and decrease traffic ... the hydrogen-fuel-cell batteries ... would cut pollution*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*Computers, routes, Also with, riders less*) do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 5 - Question # 6

BUS ENGINEERS HAVE MADE THESE MODERN BUSES IN  
SÃO Paulo to help traffic. TO SEE HOW THEY COULD  
HELP IN DECREASING THE POLLUTION. ALSO ACCORDING TO THE  
TEXT HAVING AN EFFICIENT BUS SYSTEM IS ALSO A MATTER OF EQUITY.

**Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text (*To see how they could help in decreasing the pollution and having an efficient bus system is also a matter of equity*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (inappropriate capitalization; *traffic. To; Also according to the text having ... is also; efficient*) do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 5 - Question # 6

Due to highly populated cities, traffic is often running thick, and slow, causing people to be late and often frustrated on the road.

**Score Point: 0**

The response is personal, providing an explanation that is not text-based, demonstrating no understanding of the text.

# **PRACTICE SET**

In São Paulo, Brazil, a network of public transportation operates daily using different technologies, routes, and buses.

São Paulo is populated with 18 million people that bus engineers have to make sure are transported safely and efficiently.

With 26,391 buses, engineers use such technological methods as planning bus networks by computer simulation. They also rely on GPS monitoring to keep an eye on their buses. An electronic fee collection makes paying bus fare easier, and hydrogen-fuel-cell buses will be tested for the reduction of pollutant emissions.

Component A - Module 5 - Question # 6

Bus engineers have used modern technology to improve bus systems in São Paulo because they made new lanes. The new lanes make traffic easier. Bus systems go faster and more efficient.

São Paulo uses advanced technology when it comes to their bus system. There are so many programs that run behind the scenes. The running of the buses relies on a number of advanced technologies. For example, computer simulations help plan the bus network and GPS monitoring keeps track of the fleet. In addition, electronic payment streamlines fare collection. These things improve the bus system because by monitoring the buses and creating different networks, traffic can be avoided. Also, the electronic payment saves the company from the trouble of dealing with cash and coins. It eliminates certain obstacles allowing the advanced technologies to greatly improve the bus network in São Paulo.

São Paulo bus system have used modern technology to help them improve transportation.

They have used GPS Systems to tell where every bus is at all times. They are also

trying to help the environment out by using a small number of Hydrogen-fuel-cell busses.

In São paulo bus Engineers have used modern technology to improve bus systems and help improve their buses networks; Gps for the fleet and electronic payments for the riders fares.

**COMPONENT A, Module 5**  
**ITEM 6**  
**PRACTICE SET ANNOTATIONS**

**1. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain how bus engineers have used modern technology to improve bus systems in São Paulo (*With 26,391 buses, engineers use such technological methods as planning bus networks by computer simulation ... rely on GPS monitoring to Keep an eye on their buses ... electronic fee collection makes paying bus fare easier, and hydrogen-fuel-cell buses will be tested for the reduction of pollutant emissions*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*that for “who”*), and errors in conventions (*to Keep*) do not hinder comprehension.

**2. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by partial information from the text (*they made new lanes ... make traffic easier. Bus systems go faster and more efficient*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*efficient*) do not hinder comprehension.

**3. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain how bus engineers have used modern technology to improve bus systems in São Paulo (*running of the buses relies on ... advanced technologies ... computer simulations help plan the bus network and GPS monitoring keeps track of the fleet ... electronic payment streamlines fare collection ... by monitoring the buses and creating different networks, traffic can be avoided ... saves the company from ... dealing with cash and coins ... eliminates certain obstacles*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*obstacles allowing*) do not hinder comprehension.

**4. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by partial information from the text (*used GPS Systems to tell where every bus is at all times. They are also trying to help the enviornment ... using a small number of Hydrogen-fuel-cell busses*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*buy for “by”*), and errors in conventions (word omission, *system have, trans portation, enviornment, Hydrogen*) do not hinder comprehension.

**5. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by partial information from the text (*GpS for the fleet and Electronic payments for the riders fares*). Language use is imprecise, providing only one incorrectly constructed sentence, and errors in conventions (*In São paulo bus*, inappropriate capitalization, *buses network*, a misused semicolon, *riders fares*) may hinder comprehension.

# **QUESTION #7**

As proved in both the text, How to Keep 18 Million People Moving, and the "Bus Rapid Transit Systems" chart, the, a bus rapid transit system can improve or solve transportation problems in large urban cities. The text mentions that buses in São Paulo have their own lane. This of course leads to less traffic for buses and less air pollution. São Paulo is showing that this bus network/transportation option has a crucial role in preventing cities from choking themselves in traffic and pollution. According to the chart, in Port Alegre in South America, on a weekday there are 235,000 bus riders. In the AM Peak-hour, peak-direction there are 304 buses and 17,500 riders. Imagine how much traffic there would be if each of those riders had their own vehicle. That would be 17,500 extra cars on the road instead of 304 buses. Therefore buses are reducing traffic and saving the air from pollution. Although traffic is not being completely eliminated, bus rapid transit systems are highly reducing the transportation problems.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains how a bus rapid transit system can improve or solve transportation problems in large urban cities, using information from the text (*buses in São Paulo have their own lane ... leads to less traffic for buses and less air pollution ... preventing cities from choking themselves in traffic and pollution and Therefore buses are reducing traffic and saving the air from pollution*) as well as information from the graphic (*in South America, on a weekday there are 235,000 bus riders. In the AM Peak-hour, peak-direction there are 304 buses and 17,500 riders. Imagine how much traffic there would be if each of those riders had their own vehicle*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*the, a bus; coarse* for “course”; *highly reducing*), and errors in conventions (*their own lane, This of coarse leads, each ... had their, Therefore buses*) do not hinder comprehension.

Urban cities evoke thoughts of skyscrapers, business, and traffic. In a city with a well-planned bus rapid transit system, traffic could potentially no longer be an issue. People who chose to live in cities tend to always be in a rush, speed matters to them. A BRT system offers a way to work that saves time, costs less than a taxi and removes many vehicles from the road, saving even more time. When urbanites can save time and money, that's an offer they cannot refuse. This is evident in the cities of Hartford, Honolulu and Houston, where their travel time was reduced by 40% or more.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains how a bus rapid transit system can improve or solve transportation problems in large urban cities, using information from the text (*A BRT system offers a way to work that ... removes many vehicles from the road*) as well as information from the graphic (*BRT system ... saves time and This is evident in the cities of Hartford, Honolulu and Houston, where their travel time was reduced by 40% or more*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*chose* for “choose”), and errors in conventions (*rush, speed* and *thats*) do not hinder comprehension.

In large urban cities there is a multitude of traffic. A bus rapid transit system could help the people in the cities. One way it will help the people is being able to get the work faster. According to the graph twenty-nine percent of people were able to save several minutes by the bus, according to the text it is another form of transportation until they get subway's put in.

**Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation (*One way it will help the people is being able to get the work faster*) that is supported by partial information from the text and graphic (*twenty-nine percent of people were able to save several minutes and it is another form of transportation until they get subway's put in*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*the* for "to"), and errors in conventions (*cities there, trafic, sevral, minits, acording, subway's*) may hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 5 - Question #7

In order to solve transportation problems in large urban cities they should open lanes for only public transportation. They also should offer more public transportation. This would really help the transportation problems in large urban cities.

**Score Point: 1**

The response implies an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text (*they should open lanes for only public transportation*). There is no reference to information from the graphic. Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*cities they*) do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 5 - Question #7

The bus rapid transit system can improve and possibly fix the transportation problems in big urban cities.

**Score Point: 0**

The response only rephrases the task, demonstrating no understanding of the text.

# PRACTICE SET

The uses of transit buses could help transportation problems in large cities greatly. For one, the congestion in the city would begin to go down, making routes easier and faster for commuters. More BRT systems would be put into place, making the carless feel good about their travels. According to the BRT systems chart, the all too familiar, New York City has noted an 18 minute time savings if you would be traveling on the I-495. Other cities have reported time saving transits and the amount saved is stacking. If all large cities in the world were to switch to the BRT system, congestion and transportation problems would decrease rapidly.

Component A - Module 5 - Question #7

A <sup>bus</sup> rapid transit system would help transportation problems in large urban cities because there wouldn't be as much traffic if more people took the bus. According to the graph, in Los Angeles, travel time was reduced 28% - 38% by the bus rapid transit systems.

In larger urban areas, more and more bus rapid transit systems are being utilized. These BRT systems improve transportation throughout these large cities. As shown on the chart, cities w/ BRT's bus thousands of riders on various weekdays, as well as save them travel times up to 60 minutes!

These time savings are results of methods BRT systems implement. When traffic runs high, Buses are still able to run quickly and efficiently using bus lanes legal for their use only. Though transportation problems still exist, these Bus Rapid Transit Systems greatly improve the situation.

In most large urban cities, traffic is a very large problem with a not so easy solution. But new technology and advanced engineers have created a bus rapid transit system that can improve this conflict. In Australia, these stations are the Liverpool-Paramatta Busway/lane. This line seats 18,000 weekday riders. On average, about 31 minutes are saved. In addition, BRT systems can lower construction costs, and their operating costs are almost always covered by fare collection. Everyone wins!

In a major city with a lot of traffic problems a BRT could benefit the whole city in a couple ways. First, as shown in the passage, the BRT can cut down traffic as well as reduce the amount of pollution. Second, according to the chart, the BRT can drastically cut down travel time

**COMPONENT A, Module 5**  
**ITEM 7**  
**PRACTICE SET ANNOTATIONS**

**1. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains how a bus rapid transit system can improve or solve transportation problems in large urban cities, using information from the text (*the congestion in the city would begin to go down, making routes easier and faster for commuters. More BRT systems would be ... making the carless feel good about their travels*) as well as information from the graphic (*New York City has noted an 18 minute time savings ... on the I-495. Other cities have reported time saving transits*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*18 minute* and *time saving*) do not hinder comprehension.

**2. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text and graphic (*there wouldn't be as much traffic if more people took the bus and in LOS Angeles, Travel time was reduced 28% - 38%*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*LOS* and *Travel*) do not hinder comprehension.

**3. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains how a bus rapid transit system can improve or solve transportation problems in large urban cities, using information from the text (*more and more bus rapid transit systems are being utilized and Buses are still able to run quickly and efficiently using bus lanes legal for their use only*) as well as information from the graphic (*cities w/ BRT's bus thousands of riders on various weekdays, as well as save them travel times up to 60 minutes*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*BRT's, are results of, Buses, These*) do not hinder comprehension.

#### **4. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains how a bus rapid transit system can improve or solve transportation problems in large urban cities, using information from the text (*BRT systems can lower construction costs, and their operating costs are almost always covered by fare collection*) as well as information from the graphic (*In Australia, these stations are the Liverpool-Paramatta Busway/lane. This line seats 18,000 weekday riders ... about 31 minutes are saved*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*a not so easy solution*), and errors in conventions (*these stations are ... Busway/lane, construction, thier*) do not hinder comprehension.

#### **5. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation (*a BRT could benefit the whole city in a couple ways*) that is supported by overly general information from the text and graphic (*the BRT can cut down traffic as well as reduce the amount of pollution and the BRT can drastically cut down travel time*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*problems a, couple ways, a missing period*) do not hinder comprehension.