Rhetorical Simulation:
Descriptive Writing
"Florida Living"

[Click Here to Begin](#)

Scenario

You are lifelong resident of Florida who has recently moved to Massachusetts. Attempt to explain to your fellow students--all of whom grew up in New England--what it is like to live in Florida.

I grew up in Florida. It's called the Sunshine state for obvious reasons. The winters there are nowhere near as harsh as they are in the Northeast. Most of the state's economy comes from tourism. Many people from the Northeast retire there because the cost of living and taxes are less oppressive than they are in their native states. The state, while it has pockets of democratic voters, tends to vote republican. None of this affected me much though. My neck of the woods was a typical slice of suburban America.

I never saw snow. I never saw a live professional baseball or hockey game until I was in my early twenties when the gulf coast region where I lived acquired a baseball team (Devil Rays) and hockey team (Tampa Bay Lightning). For 15 years I never wore a heavy jacket—just a windbreaker to wear in January when it got "Florida cold"-30 degrees. If you asked me to name a local bird, the first thing that would come to mind would have been a pelican. If I wanted to spend spring break in Daytona Beach with thousands of other teenagers, I would have had to driven north.

Florida was first inhabited by North American Indians (called "Seminoles") before it was found by Spanish explorers looking for gold and the fabled Fountain of Youth. Juan Ponce De Leon, the great explorer, first called the region "Florida" which means "Flowery land." The oldest city in North America—Saint Augustine—can be found in Florida. Florida became an American state in 1845.

You chose this paragraph. ➡

Now select another paragraph to go with it.

I grew up in Florida. It's called the Sunshine state for obvious reasons. The winters there are nowhere near as harsh as they are in the Northeast. Most of the state's economy comes from tourism. Many people from the Northeast retire there because the cost of living and taxes are less oppressive than they are in their native states. The state, while it has pockets of democratic voters, tends to vote republican. None of this affected me much though. My neck of the woods was a typical slice of suburban America.

We had two malls near where I lived. I also lived on the coast so there was a beach nearby. I probably should have gone there more frequently, but I have never been a big fan of sand. I know that's an odd quality in a Floridian, but I can't help it. I hate the way sand gets between my toes. Also I tend to sunburn easily, so in the end I wound avoiding one of the key features of the state in which I spent my formative years.

Disney World, which for many is a once or twice in a lifetime vacation spot, was a mere two hours away, Unlike people from other states, I didn't envy people who lived in Orlando. In truth, I thought they were deprived. After all, where was their beach? Most of Florida was coastline, but the poor inlanders at places like Orlando were, to most natives, not to be envied because they had "the Mouse"—they were to be pitied because they lacked a beach, which we all believed was our natural inheritance.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, Florida became a popular winter resort area thanks to the construction of railroads and hotels. In 1898 Tampa, Florida serve as a launching point for American forces going to fight in the Spanish-American War. Florida did not acquire a significant population until the middle of the 20th century when the combination of cheap land and air conditioning made the spot appealing for many Americans. My family moved to Florida in the late 1980's because the job market there was better than the job market in the Northeast.

Click Here to Return to the Last Page

You chose this paragraph.

Now select another paragraph to go with it.

I never saw snow. I never saw a live professional baseball or hockey game until I was in my early twenties when the gulf coast region where I lived acquired a baseball team (Devil Rays) and hockey team (Tampa Bay Lightning). For 15 years I never wore a heavy jacket—just a windbreaker to wear in January when it got "Florida cold"-30 degrees. If you asked me to name a local bird, the first thing that would come to mind would have been a pelican. If I wanted to spend spring break in Daytona Beach with thousands of other teenagers, I would have had to driven north.

We had two malls near where I lived. I also lived on the coast so there was a beach nearby. I probably should have gone there more frequently, but I have never been a big fan of sand. I know that's an odd quality in a Floridian, but I can't help it. I hate the way sand gets between my toes. Also I tend to sunburn easily, so in the end I wound avoiding one of the key features of the state in which I spent my formative years.

Disney World, which for many is a once or twice in a lifetime vacation spot, was a mere two hours away, Unlike people from other states, I didn't envy people who lived in Orlando. In truth, I thought they were deprived. After all, where was their beach? Most of Florida was coastline, but the poor inlanders at places like Orlando were, to most natives, not to be envied because they had "the Mouse"—they were to be pitied because they lacked a beach, which we all believed was our natural inheritance.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, Florida became a popular winter resort area thanks to the construction of railroads and hotels. In 1898 Tampa, Florida serve as a launching point for American forces going to fight in the Spanish-American War. Florida did not acquire a significant population until the middle of the 20th century when the combination of cheap land and air conditioning made the spot appealing for many Americans. My family moved to Florida in the late 1980's because the job market there was better than the job market in the Northeast.

You chose this paragraph.

→

Now select another paragraph to go with it.

Florida was first inhabited by North American Indians (called "Seminoles") before it was found by Spanish explorers looking for gold and the fabled Fountain of Youth. Juan Ponce De Leon, the great explorer, first called the region "Florida" which means "Flowery land." The oldest city in North America—Saint Augustine—can be found in Florida. Florida became an American state in 1845.

We had two malls near where I lived. I also lived on the coast so there was a beach nearby. I probably should have gone there more frequently, but I have never been a big fan of sand. I know that's an odd quality in a Floridian, but I can't help it. I hate the way sand gets between my toes. Also I tend to sunburn easily, so in the end I wound avoiding one of the key features of the state in which I spent my formative years.

Disney World, which for many is a once or twice in a lifetime vacation spot, was a mere two hours away, Unlike people from other states, I didn't envy people who lived in Orlando. In truth, I thought they were deprived. After all, where was their beach? Most of Florida was coastline, but the poor inlanders at places like Orlando were, to most natives, not to be envied because they had "the Mouse"—they were to be pitied because they lacked a beach, which we all believed was our natural inheritance.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, Florida became a popular winter resort area thanks to the construction of railroads and hotels. In 1898 Tampa, Florida serve as a launching point for American forces going to fight in the Spanish-American War. Florida did not acquire a significant population until the middle of the 20th century when the combination of cheap land and air conditioning made the spot appealing for many Americans. My family moved to Florida in the late 1980's because the job market there was better than the job market in the Northeast.

Version 1-4

I grew up in Florida. It's called the Sunshine state for obvious reasons. The winters there are nowhere near as harsh as they are in the Northeast. Most of the state's economy comes from tourism. Many people from the Northeast retire there because the cost of living and taxes are less oppressive than they are in their native states. The state, while it has pockets of democratic voters, tends to vote republican. None of this affected me much though. My neck of the woods was a typical slice of suburban America.

We had two malls near where I lived. I also lived on the coast so there was a beach nearby. I probably should have gone there more frequently, but I have never been a big fan of sand. I know that's an odd quality in a Floridian, but I can't help it. I hate the way sand gets between my toes. Also I tend to sunburn easily, so in the end I wound avoiding one of the key features of the state in which I spent my formative years.

Version 1-5

I grew up in Florida. It's called the Sunshine state for obvious reasons. The winters there are nowhere near as harsh as they are in the Northeast. Most of the state's economy comes from tourism. Many people from the Northeast retire there because the cost of living and taxes are less oppressive than they are in their native states. The state, while it has pockets of democratic voters, tends to vote republican. None of this affected me much though. My neck of the woods was a typical slice of suburban America.

Disney World, which for many is a once or twice in a lifetime vacation spot, was a mere two hours away, Unlike people from other states, I didn't envy people who lived in Orlando. In truth, I thought they were deprived. After all, where was their beach? Most of Florida was coastline, but the poor inlanders at places like Orlando were, to most natives, not to be envied because they had "the Mouse"—they were to be pitied because they lacked a beach, which we all believed was our natural inheritance.

I grew up in Florida. It's called the Sunshine state for obvious reasons. The winters there are nowhere near as harsh as they are in the Northeast. Most of the state's economy comes from tourism. Many people from the Northeast retire there because the cost of living and taxes are less oppressive than they are in their native states. The state, while it has pockets of democratic voters, tends to vote republican. None of this affected me much though. My neck of the woods was a typical slice of suburban America.

 In the late 19th and early 20th century, Florida became a popular winter resort area thanks to the construction of railroads and hotels. In 1898 Tampa, Florida serve as a launching point for American forces going to fight in the Spanish-American War. Florida did not acquire a significant population until the middle of the 20th century when the combination of cheap land and air conditioning made the spot appealing for many Americans. My family moved to Florida in the late 1980's because the job market there was better than the job market in the Northeast.

Version 2-4

I never saw snow. I never saw a live professional baseball or hockey game until I was in my early twenties when the gulf coast region where I lived acquired a baseball team (Devil Rays) and hockey team (Tampa Bay Lightning). For 15 years I never wore a heavy jacket— just a windbreaker to wear in January when it got "Florida cold"-30 degrees. If you asked me to name a local bird, the first thing that would come to mind would have been a pelican. If I wanted to spend spring break in Daytona Beach with thousands of other teenagers, I would have had to driven north.

We had two malls near where I lived. I also lived on the coast so there was a beach nearby. I probably should have gone there more frequently, but I have never been a big fan of sand. I know that's an odd quality in a Floridian, but I can't help it. I hate the way sand gets between my toes. Also I tend to sunburn easily, so in the end I wound avoiding one of the key features of the state in which I spent my formative years.

Version 2-5

I never saw snow. I never saw a live professional baseball or hockey game until I was in my early twenties when the gulf coast region where I lived acquired a baseball team (Devil Rays) and hockey team (Tampa Bay Lightning). For 15 years I never wore a heavy jacket—just a windbreaker to wear in January when it got "Florida cold"-30 degrees. If you asked me to name a local bird, the first thing that would come to mind would have been a pelican. If I wanted to spend spring break in Daytona Beach with thousands of other teenagers, I would have had to driven north.

Disney World, which for many is a once or twice in a lifetime vacation spot, was a mere two hours away, Unlike people from other states, I didn't envy people who lived in Orlando. In truth, I thought they were deprived. After all, where was their beach? Most of Florida was coastline, but the poor inlanders at places like Orlando were, to most natives, not to be envied because they had "the Mouse"—they were to be pitied because they lacked a beach, which we all believed was our natural inheritance.

I never saw snow. I never saw a live professional baseball or hockey game until I was in my early twenties when the gulf coast region where I lived acquired a baseball team (Devil Rays) and hockey team (Tampa Bay Lightning). For 15 years I never wore a heavy jacket—just a windbreaker to wear in January when it got "Florida cold"-30 degrees. If you asked me to name a local bird, the first thing that would come to mind would have been a pelican. If I wanted to spend spring break in Daytona Beach with thousands of other teenagers, I would have had to driven north.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, Florida became a popular winter resort area thanks to the construction of railroads and hotels. In 1898 Tampa, Florida serve as a launching point for American forces going to fight in the Spanish-American War. Florida did not acquire a significant population until the middle of the 20th century when the combination of cheap land and air conditioning made the spot appealing for many Americans. My family moved to Florida in the late 1980's because the job market there was better than the job market in the Northeast.

Florida was first inhabited by North American Indians (called "Seminoles") before it was found by Spanish explorers looking for gold and the fabled Fountain of Youth. Juan Ponce De Leon, the great explorer, first called the region "Florida" which means "Flowery land." The oldest city in North America—Saint Augustine—can be found in Florida. Florida became an American state in 1845.

We had two malls near where I lived. I also lived on the coast so there was a beach nearby. I probably should have gone there more frequently, but I have never been a big fan of sand. I know that's an odd quality in a Floridian, but I can't help it. I hate the way sand gets between my toes. Also I tend to sunburn easily, so in the end I wound avoiding one of the key features of the state in which I spent my formative years.

Florida was first inhabited by North American Indians (called "Seminoles") before it was found by Spanish explorers looking for gold and the fabled Fountain of Youth. Juan Ponce De Leon, the great explorer, first called the region "Florida" which means "Flowery land." The oldest city in North America—Saint Augustine—can be found in Florida. Florida became an American state in 1845.

Disney World, which for many is a once or twice in a lifetime vacation spot, was a mere two hours away, Unlike people from other states, I didn't envy people who lived in Orlando. In truth, I thought they were deprived. After all, where was their beach? Most of Florida was coastline, but the poor inlanders at places like Orlando were, to most natives, not to be envied because they had "the Mouse"—they were to be pitied because they lacked a beach, which we all believed was our natural inheritance.

Version 3-6

Florida was first inhabited by North American Indians (called "Seminoles") before it was found by Spanish explorers looking for gold and the fabled Fountain of Youth. Juan Ponce De Leon, the great explorer, first called the region "Florida" which means "Flowery land." The oldest city in North America—Saint Augustine—can be found in Florida. Florida became an American state in 1845.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, Florida became a popular winter resort area thanks to the construction of railroads and hotels. In 1898 Tampa, Florida serve as a launching point for American forces going to fight in the Spanish-American War. Florida did not acquire a significant population until the middle of the 20th century when the combination of cheap land and air conditioning made the spot appealing for many Americans. My family moved to Florida in the late 1980's because the job market there was better than the job market in the Northeast.