



- Aside from its significance as a totem of the United States, the penny has garnered support from the people who stand against its elimination from the economy. According to The Harris Poll, such protectors of the penny constitute a general majority of the U.S. population at every income level (Source E). More significantly, the percentage of Americans who oppose abolishing the penny increases as the yearly income decreases, with lower income indicating a larger citizen population (Source E). America has its reasons for backing the retention of the penny. Writer Ric Kahn has calculated that if a person were to save “90 pennies a day” for “38 years,” he/she would garner “\$13,084.59” (Source B). It doesn’t take an economist to assess that \$13,000 is a great deal of money, and anyone would be willing to attain it by saving some pennies every day. With the public support for pennies and the potential the coin has for providing Americans with additional riches, it’s no surprise that other major nations have kept their own “penny” in circulation. Mark W. Weller’s letter reveals that “in the major industrialized countries, including Great Britain, Canada, and the U.S., the penny or penny-equivalent remains in production” (Source D). Allowing merchants to sell goods without a system of price rounding, the penny and its counterparts have allowed various national economies to truly exercise free markets. However, in the United States, the penny is not just an economic tool; it is a cherished American symbol, each carrying the face of Abe Lincoln. If the U.S. wishes to embody the American ideal of a “people-first” society and honor President Lincoln, it should keep the penny, because the majority of people oppose its elimination, the people have been using it, and the people would be provided with the freest markets with the continued existence of the penny.
- **Good transition, but the claim still doesn’t specific what the focus is. In other words, it says “the penny has people who don’t want people to abolish it,” which isn’t a reason, but a declaration of the fact that it’s a controversial topic. Clarify. Advanced diction with strong verbs and phrasing throughout. Is this paragraph about it being economically beneficial or historically sentimental? Source B argues an economic reason; the commentary that follows Source D portrays the Penny as a “cherished” American symbol. Need a stronger conclusion drawn although the evidence and analysis/commentary don’t exactly match.**



- Although some people may argue that the penny is useless and wasteful, nothing can replace its true economic and historical value.
- The main reason why the penny came into existence is so that people and businesses can calculate money precisely, all the way down to one-hundredth of a dollar. This can be vital to many people, especially lower income families who earn less than \$25,000 annually. Among this specific group of people, only 16% of them favored abolishing the penny (Source E), nearly 10% less than any other average income group. One reason for this may be the fact that, for many of these people, every penny earned really does count. These people can't always afford to lose even the smallest amount of money, which is why rounding costs to the nearest 5 or 10 cent could be harmful in the long run. While losing that extra few cents here and there may not impact many people, those few cents would build up and people would start spending more money on things without even realizing it. This would likely lead to a slightly higher inflation rate— something the United States knows can lead to disaster. And although it may not have a direct impact right away, it's something that would build up for generations to come, especially as the elimination of pennies would only further encourage the elimination of all coin currency overall— something that would only make prices skyrocket even further. Besides, there are several countries throughout the world "including Great Britain, Canada, [and] Japan" that continue to make and circulate "the penny or penny equivalent" (source D) of one cent. Although the penny may seem pointless or unnecessary at times, it's something that's used in several countries for several reasons, so clearly there's something beneficial or helpful about using it in circulation. With most countries using some form of percent-tax system, it would be hard for any country to banish the penny since numbers rarely come out evenly. Although rounding would be quicker and more efficient, there are many people who wouldn't like losing even the slightest bit of money just because the government eliminated the penny.
- Claim is clear but could be worded more eloquently. Use " "s for Source E evidence. Strive for more advanced diction and syntax. Look at sentence starters and consider how you could start many of them differently. Good use of the dash, nice voice there. Need a stronger conclusion drawn.



- Fiscally, the notion of abolishing pennies is a risky choice. While at first, it may seem that America is saving money, considering that the coin costs more to produce it than it is actually worth, the outcome is the opposite. Cutting pennies from circulation would result in the nickel to be the next lowest denomination, rendering prices to go up on everything from gas, menu items, basic goods, and clothes. And while the price of a shirt may not be affected by the extra 4 cents, gas per gallon, taxes, and canned goods surely adds up, and every cent counts for some people. According to Lewis Mark, all transactions would be rounded up to the nearest five cents (Source A). This change affects everyone, but especially those of lower classes. As one graph shows, 62 percent of people making less than \$25,000 a year oppose abolishing the penny (Source E). Jim Kolbe abolishing the penny is another blatant example of wealthy politicians forgetting the plight of the working class. So, while 5 cents may not seem like a big deal, as Ric Kahn estimates the average person makes three transactions a day, meaning that the additional money adds up quickly to haunt those already struggling (Source C). Many will use the argument that with a electronic monetary systems such as credit and debit cards, coins are useless. But this argument forgets that a lot of the population has no credit, seldom a credit card. So, while abolishing pennies may give automatic monetary benefits, in the long run, American citizens, especially the working class are the ones hurting from this deal.
- **I understand the phrasing of “risky,” but be more aggressive and confident in your stance. “Fiscally, the notion of abolishing pennies is an irreversibly detrimental decision.” Nice use of the word “plight.” Use quotation marks. Good observation from Source A, it pairs nicely like Source C. Good pick. Although add more analysis/commentary after your Source C Citation. GREAT refutation sprinkled into the paragraph about electronic monetary systems. Last sentence is to the point, but could use stronger diction and phrasing.**



- Acting as an embedded component of American society and an economic convivence, the penny cannot easily be taken out of circulation without repercussion. Across the nation, there is widespread support of the penny as it is vital to individual business interests and state economies. Allowing for continuous state prosperity, “the penny has its fans, especially in Tennessee” (Source A). The fact that Tennessee is reliant on the production of pennies due to the manufacture of zinc signifies that the removal of the penny would damage their state economy substantially. Since a U.S. state sees the manufacturing of pennies as integral, the banning of penny usage would have adverse effects on the citizens residing in Tennessee, leading to the question of why to remove it from circulation? Even if it is seen as “useless” by some, there will always be a use for it somewhere in the country, as seen in Tennessee. The generalization that pennies are a form of unusable currency is simply inaccurate. Pennies help set prices for businesses, both large and small, and are convenient for change. There is no rounding up when pennies allow for exact change; therefore, the use of pennies does not alter the pricing of basic items, making penny usage efficient at state and personal levels. As depicted in the poll by the Harris group, public opinion reflects strong support to keep the penny (Source E). Of those surveyed, 53-62% oppose abolishing the penny with results ranging from participants of various socioeconomic backgrounds. To get rid of the penny, a very large percentage of the population must support the decision, specifically two-thirds of the population to account for a majority consensus. From the poll, it is evident that over half of those surveyed replied with opposition to the abolition of the penny, meaning support for pennies is widespread and scattered throughout the nation. Overwhelming public opinion against removal of penny shows that the nation values the seemingly “worthless” coin. As some Americans view the penny as insignificant, there is clear value of the penny in the eyes of the American people. Prevalent support for the penny is seen in the examination of how zinc manufacturing is utilized in Tennessee alongside a national poll on public opinion. State economies depend on the production of the penny to sustain prosperity in their economies, but on the individual level, the penny benefits both cashiers of businesses and their customers as the familiarity of the penny and its practicality in setting price make the penny a steeple to the average American exchange.
- **Clear, complex stance. Strong, demanding voice throughout. The argument surrounding A is focused and clear. Good. However, the argument surrounding source E needs strengthening, and perhaps a closer look at how we might use Source E. While more than half of Americans oppose abolish the penny, a stronger use of the chart would be zoning in on how that opinion varies between the classes and what that says about how and why people perceive the penny as a staple in society. Good statement near the end that draws a connection between both sources.**



- In addition to expensive taste, Americans also have a habit of rushing through dinner, social events, and even transactions. Many customers hustle through transactions with their charge cards without looking up from their phone or delivering a humble “hello” to their cashier. These simple transactions, however, cannot be performed when physical monetary transactions are taking place. In this technologically advanced society, pennies unnecessarily slow transactions down. Years ago, cash transactions were far more common in all ages, but “now, everywhere you turn around town, the zinc-and-copper-one-cent piece is taking on the chin: shoved out of the economic picture by charge cards” (Source B). This is what should be happening; in a rushing technological society, cash and coin transactions clearly slow dealings down, “[adding] 2 to 2.5 seconds to each cash transaction,” which calculates to up to “4 hours per year” (Source B). That is far too much time spent rummaging through purses and pockets to find a coin or two to add up to a purchase. The customer shouldn’t waste this time; the cashier shouldn’t waste this time; America, shouldn’t waste this time. As said by Jeff Gore, “the point of currency is to facilitate transactions. People fishing in their pockets. The cashier has to open a bag of pennies. For me, it’s a waste of time I object to” (Source B). Americans should evaluate how beneficial having the penny around is for them, and how it would alter an already technological society.
- **I like the idea of the claim, but it does not center itself around the core topic: the penny. Make sure your claim is centered around that, even though it indirectly seems like it. Your argument makes sense, but this paragraph does not synthesize between sources. All of the information comes from Source B. Consider how another source may reinforce the argument presented in Source B. There needs to be a stronger conclusion drawn.**



- The penny does not benefit the individuals who encounter it in their daily lives. Some claim that the removal of the penny from our economic system would hurt the average consumer and the average business. The rounding of prices and the transition to less coin values would hurt efficiency. But, it would actually help it. Those who come in contact with the penny the most, customers and cashiers, are both hurt by its existence. The average person loses four hours a year due to inefficiency of the coin, no matter what side of the counter they are on (Source B). This could be digging in their pockets or fishing through the cash register for exact change. Regardless, these people, which make up the large majority of the population, are deprived of useful seconds every day because of the penny's inconvenience. Even those who are employed by the physical production of the penny are less useful because of its existence. Employees of the US Mints could be put to far more meaningful monetary work by the government, like recognizing and tracking counterfeit money (Source C). These occupations would be much more fulfilling for those working them and more beneficial to the American people whose money they would be protecting instead of lowering its value by producing billions of insignificant one-cent coins. The penny does not benefit any of the people involved in its circulation, from its producer to general customers and cashiers.
- **Your claim takes a clear stance, but it is not a reason...it does not address why the penny does not benefit individuals. Clarify and strengthen that. Good idea to concede before introducing evidence that refutes. Consider more transitions between sentences, there are a couple, but not many.**



- The penny's existence is simply wasting people's time and is not worth the trouble that comes along with it. According to a survey taken in May of 2005 27% of Americans do not keep track of their loose change (Source B). If one fourth of Americans are not keeping track of loose change, it renders the penny pointless because that means that many people believe that the penny is not even worth their time. If a quarter of Americans do not even bother to attempt to use pennies, then would their removal from the economy be that big of a change? Isn't the whole point of currency to facilitate transactions? People rummaging through their pockets trying to find exact change is just drawing these, what would be quick, transactions out. It has been calculated that these drawn out transactions can equate to 4 hours wasted per person (Source B). The time that is saved by taking the penny out of circulation could be used better by the employee and customer instead of wasting time that could be better spent doing other things. Why would we continue to use this inefficient method of currency that simply costs the time of vendors and consumers alike? Doesn't America pride itself on efficiency? When we don't like something, we change it. Why should the penny be any different?
- Clear claim: the penny wastes time and is inefficient. Use quotation marks for sourced material. Good rhetorical questions that point out the inefficiency of the penny. This paragraph, however, does not synthesize. Both pieces of evidence stem from Source B. To synthesize, you must draw a connection to two different sources. I love the rhetorical questions, but it is overused by the end when drawing a conclusion. Consider a different approach to conclude powerfully.



- Even with multiple setbacks towards the penny, the U.S. national Mint still produces over “1 billion pennies a month” dispersing more and more seeming valueless coins into fluctuation (Doc A). Many Americans are still attached to the penny, arguing that “it is important to the public and the U.S. pricing system” (Doc D). Possibly there is a nostalgia factor around pennies, remembering the youthful joy one feels as they find and pick up a shiny penny off the street, feeling wealth like a child never had before. But America is not a seven-year-old child that is exuberated by the findings of a dirty one-cent coin. America is a world power, who's economy should not be weighed down by production of these zinc paper weights. It seems that many who protest the removal of the penny are from lower income backings, given that 62% of people with incomes lower than \$25,000 dollars prefer to keep the penny while the percentage of people with incomes of over \$75,000 is 53% Doc E). It is understandable that people with less money would want to avoid an increase of prices due to the bill stating that “cash transactions would be rounded up or down” to the nearest 5 or 0, but it is more practical in the long run to eliminate the waste of resources and space that the billions of Pennies take up in America (Doc A). Another argument to continue the distribution of the Penny is to honor the legacy of President Abraham Lincoln. In 2009, President George Bush signed a revamp of the Penny in honor of Lincoln’s 200th birthday (Doc F). Many would see it as disrespectful to complete erase a coin with a past president's face on it, but it seems that people forget about another much more effective and useful piece of currency with Lincoln’s face on it as well: the five-dollar bill. Besides possibly changing prices a smidge, phasing out the Penny seems like a step in the right direction in order to modernize and bloom efficiency in America's cash economy.
- **Please reference the sources as “Source A” and so on. Reconsider your claim statement. Evidence should not be in a claim. The largest issue is not knowing what the claim/focus of the paragraph is. Think of a stronger argument than the fact that “1 billion pennies” are being produced per month; that is the very focus of the controversy, whether it not that should happen. Prevalence does not necessarily suggest rationality. Transitions are used but could be smoother and less forced. There is good variety in sources, but the delivery needs much work.**



- Today, the penny is needed more than ever because of the economic benefits for the regions that produce its materials and the lower-income citizens who rely on every last one to get by. The penny itself may not be seen as useful to many people, but those who aid in the production of pennies certainly prosper from the production of the tiny coins. Today, pennies are mostly made of zinc, with copper added to make it that signature color. One source of the zinc used to make pennies is found in Tennessee, which is “rich in zinc” (Source A). The workers who mine this zinc benefit from the production of pennies when the U.S. Mint purchases their zinc. If pennies were to be retired from U.S. currency, it would be detrimental to the employees of these companies, which would lose money and therefore be unable to pay their workers. Even outside of penny production, the elimination of pennies would damage the way of life for those of lower incomes. A poll in 2004 was conducted asking different people, grouped by income, whether they favored or opposed the abolition of the penny. Unsurprisingly, the majority of those who opposed the abolition of the penny made less than \$25,000 a year (Source E). The reason? Those of lower incomes rely on every single penny, nickel, dime, and quarter in addition to their bills to buy food and other necessities. Should pennies be taken away, most prices would be rounded up in order to end in a five or a zero so that one can pay with higher denomination coins. Those who don’t earn much money would have a hard time paying because they won’t have enough change without pennies, even if prices were not rounded up. Economically, the retirement of the penny would have detrimental effects on those involved in its production as well as a rather large part of American society: the lower class. Employees who provide materials for pennies and even those who make pennies would lose money and even their jobs, while those already without money would struggle even further to afford the basic necessities they need to survive.
- Clear claim. Nice. In respect to the workers, good look at cause and effect – logical and realistic. I like the argument at the end, but is there enough evidence and thinking to suggest that these lower class families need it for survival? It’s a good argument, but just needs a bit more support to make a compelling and convincing argument.



- On the surface of the penny lies a notable figure in our nation's history—arguably one of the most crucial presidents in our history. Eradicating the penny would be a disrespect to not only him, but to the history of our country. Though the notion that terminating the production of pennies serves as a disrespect to Lincoln is popular among the people once prompted to argue in favor of it, there exist those who defy it. Notably, New York Times author, William Safire, dictates that, President Lincoln had “distrusted” the usage of paper money since he thought that he would have to sign each greenback” and that he would be “ashamed” to have his face on the penny. (Source C) Of course, as a nation with notable figures as Lincoln, we should not dare to defy his wishes in regard to the country. If he mistrusted the paper money system, why even have his face on the coin, anyway? Should we place ourselves in his place—wouldn't we be distrusting of it, as well? In his time, the usage of paper money was just commencing on forging its way into American society. And of course, as human beings, we are inherently mistrusting and suspicious to things that are obscure and foreign to us. But times are different now. In our society, it is deemed as not only a luxury, but a necessity, and with it, we thrive. If he were alive today, would you picture him holding the same opinion? One may also ask, “Don't we honor him enough?” And they do have a point—why place him on a coin if a monument such as the Lincoln Memorial is situated in the very heart of the country? However, the penny possesses a deeper, more significant notion in honoring him, being “the most visible and tangible reminder of Lincoln's significance in American history” (Source F) Eradicating the usage of the penny from our daily lives manifests the suppression of the President who has left an imprint on our society—an imprint so significant that it has resulted in a shift in our history that has affected us and the subsequent generations to come.
- Reading just the claim, it is not clear what the argument is. Instead, combine sentence 1 + 2 to create a qualified, counterargument claim. Good embedding. Wonderful voice. Great look at what “one may also ask.” It's a great way to concede and refute all in one. Nicely drawn conclusion. Powerful.



- Not only does the penny coin have economical value, a majority of Americans are in favor of keeping the penny due to its history involving president Abraham Lincoln and its nostalgic aspects. Pennies will not drop out of circulation due to most Americans favoring the coin. Source E shows the Narris Poll that was conducted online within the United States between June 10 and 16, 2004 among a nationwide cross section of 2,136 adults (age 18 and over). In this poll, 59 percent of people in the survey opposed to abolishing the penny compared to 23 percent who favor abolishing the penny. Since the penny coin has been in circulation for so long, many Americans have learned to appreciate the penny and memories related to it. As kids we keep piggy banks full of pennies one day hoping to be rich, we wish on pennies in wishing wells and fountains, and press pennies into forever momentous at our favorite theme parks. We treasure these memories related to the common penny coin. But not only does this coin have a nostalgic value, it also holds a historical value. Source G shows images of pennies the most recent one from 2005 with Abraham Lincoln's face on it. These pennies have been in circulation since 1909. The penny was created by Congress to coordinate the national observance of the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's death and today continues to shed light on his death and remind people of his honorable presidency. Source F states that "the penny is perhaps the most visible and tangible reminder of Lincoln's significance in American history." Some supporters of the penny point out that it's the only coin bearing the image of Abraham Lincoln, probably the nations most revered president. No matter how hard people will fight against the penny it will still hold emotional and nostalgic values in many Americans and provides a historical insight on Americas past and president Lincoln.
- Careful with your claim. The argument of "favorability doesn't exactly warrant rationality. It seems like evidence one is about history and evidence two is bout nostalgia. Make a claim that covers both of those. Good use of Source F, but work on the commentary and conclusion drawn. Needs more of a mic-drop.



- Removing the lowest denomination from the currency will bring negative affects to the economy. The penny has become a part of the American economy and is vital to the definition of a free market. In a free market, the seller has the ability to set the prices, however, removing the penny will cause the prices everything to rounded either up or down. Being a consumer driven economy, the prices are more likely to be rounded up to make more money. Along with the increase of prices, companies would be able to force people to pay more. In addition, the gradual effort to remove millions of pennies would alter the growth of the economy. The penny, being part of the economy for so long, would affect the economy because of the removal of millions of currency and money. Some may argue that removing the penny will make the lives of workers easier, however, it would be the opposite. Removing the penny would change all the prices in stores around the United States making stores change all the tags and re-enter all the prices. The thing that was created to make life easier, will make it a lot harder. While on paper, the removal of the penny may be favorable, however, in reality, it would create more issues and problems that make the removal of the penny a mistake rather and a solution.
- Claim is much too vague and does not specify a valid and compelling reason. Consider rewriting. This paragraph does not use any use of evidence, and is not a synthesis paragraph. Phrasing and diction need improvements to warrant an advanced and developed argument.



- The penny is actually detrimental to the American economy. When is the last time that you have used a penny? Probably a long time ago and not often. Pennies will pile up anywhere and uselessly take up space. They cozy up in car cupholders, in between sofa pillows, and in containers that all coins are kept: untouched. Even when that huge amount of coins are found and taken to the local Walmart to convert to paper money, the coin counter is not accurate as they do not account for all of the coins. The penny is useless to the point where a single penny can not even buy a snack at a vending machine. There is no such thing as a penny store but rather the cheapest store is a dollar store. People, such as U.S Representative Jim Kolbe, are pushing for anti-penny bills that will discourage the use of the penny rather than completely getting rid of the penny in the circulation (Source A). This will be beneficial for the government as they can monitor the possible positive and negative effects of the penny genocide. Discouraging the use of pennies, people will be able to adjust and get familiar with not using the penny. Many people do not use pennies every day, so they will not have to adapt to a huge change. According to a survey conducted by Coinstar in 2005, 27% of Americans do not keep track of their loose change (Source B). Surely after 14 years this percentage has definitely gone up with the emergence of virtual payments such as Apple pay, Samsung pay, and Google pay. Once the penny production starts to drop and prices every begin to be rounded up, that extra penny can go towards an organization that can use the accumulated amount of money to help charities, help retirees, etc. With the increasing use of cards even cash is becoming used less often. Along with the emergence of cards, virtual payments are becoming more prevalent with the advancements in technology. People are becoming more lazy to even carry around their wallet. The penny is useful in an economic standpoint, however, the use of a single penny is almost as worthless as trash.
- Claim is direct, but is not developed enough. Specific and give a reason why the penny is detrimental and should be removed. Take out the second sentence – feels very out of place for a claim paragraph. Penny store argument does not seem to be something worth arguing. Source A does not enhance the argument, not only adds context, which is not needed. The coverage of ideas is of good effort, but this paragraph falls short of effectively synthesizing sources properly and effectively.



- Since the start of its circulation in 1787, the penny has embedded itself into the lives of typical citizens in such a way that the removal of the valued coin would be devastating. While some claim it's useless to keep random pennies that they will just lose, the penny holds significance in the American economy because even though it might not be in use every day, it is used by many Americans who save their change. For instance, Edmond Knowles "saved about 90 pennies a day for the past 38 years... [totaling in savings worth] \$13,084.59" (source B). Over time what way seem like a simple penny can turn into something much larger with greater influence in someone's life. The impact may not be immediate, but the effect still resonates throughout lives. Many believe heavy change is a hassle to physically pay with when at a register, yet the logic behind the argument is flawed in trying to disprove the importance of pennies. Admittedly, how many people are even paying with any form of cash at registers anymore? Don't most people use debt or credit cards instead? Though this is true, it does not mean that pennies are not being used by anyone. So why eliminate it? Many banks, such as American Heritage bank, have coin exchange machines and often reward their clients who turn in their pennies for dollars. The importance of our penny counting is not limited to the dedicated long-term savers – it stretches across all socioeconomics groups. In source E, the chart illuminates that over 50% of people are opposed to abolishing the penny. Continually, the diagram reveals that about 60% of adults who tend to have lower incomes (< \$20,000 – \$34,900) want to keep the penny. This wide range of people truly exemplify the phrase "every penny counts" valuing every cent they get. Undoubtably, the nation values the seemingly worthless coin. Every penny matters to someone. The penny that one person drops on the street could hold extreme value to someone else. The penny's value is not wholly dependent on its monetary worth, it depends on how it can positively affect every person it comes in contact with. Whether it be someone like Edmond Knowles or a person from a low-income household, there is no doubt that everyone can use of pennies in a beneficially way. When asking if pennies should be kept in America the answer is clear – the penny needs to stay because it holds power in positively affecting American's lives.
- The claim is developed well in the "embedded" part of the sentence, but the latter half doesn't specific why the removal would be devastating. Specify. Good use of Source B. Some nice commentary to follow Source B, and nice job weaving together the significance of both pieces of evidences. Last sentence is okay, but seems too generic - "positively affecting."



- The penny brings trivial issues that can be eliminated by simply eliminating the penny as the United States' smallest denomination. The penny is an economic liability that is "useless in everyday life" according Press Secretary Neena Moorjani. The one cent coin that cannot single handedly buy anything has become a stumbling block to society. Instead of wasting more materials minting the penny, materials we should emphasize the minting of the more prevalent coins (Source A). The "point of currency is to facilitate transactions" not have people "fishing in their pockets". As a generation is on the race to technological advancements, we must not impair the people by wasting time looking for change. In fact, this issue wastes over 15 billion a year (Source B). Finally, the ever-vanishing use for the penny creates a "bothersome and wasteful" problem. Daily, 10 million useless pennies are pushed into circulation- into a public that does contains 300 pieces of zinc idly collecting neglection. Furthermore, no longer can we buy anything with the penny; prices keep rising, rendering pennies useless (Source C). As we step into the new era, burdens must be dropped- that includes the penny.
- In the claim, consider not using "eliminate" twice; it makes the sentence confusing and unclear. The claim needs focus- what is the reason we should eliminate the penny? Use different evidence from Source A. Your use of evidence suggests that because Neena Morrijani declares it's useless that we should believe so to. This is actually a fallacy: mere appeal to authority. You must argue with a sense of rationality and logic. Compel your reader to the thought process shown through the sources. You use Source B and C more efficiently, but the commentary/analysis is listy and rushed. Must have a more developed conclusion drawn.



- One main argument opposing the continuation of pennies in our economy is the overall usage and popularity of the penny in most transactions. Because “it takes nearly a dime today to buy what a penny brought back in 1950,” two-thirds of pennies are no longer in circulation; instead they are, as John Tierney describe, behind “chair cushions or at the back of sock drawers,” unused and unnoticed (Source C). If most penny was treated this way, outcast from usage, why should pennies continue to persist in midst of a circuit where it is no longer needed? This is a valid argument; only if it were to be true. In a study based on Federal Reserve data from 2002, data shows that “the annual rate pennies disappear from circulation is surprisingly similar to all other forms of our coinage — [only around] 5.6 percent” (Source D). Such a discovery is shocking. In some cases, it’s mindboggling. Pennies that are found scattered like litter throughout our houses only has disappearance rate of 5.6 percent — comparable to the nickels, dimes, and quarters we didn’t threaten to get rid of. If that is the case, then why should we get of pennies? Might it be because pennies no longer hold any importance with the public? That shouldn’t be the case as well: according to the Harris Poll #51, 62 percent of individuals with an income less than 25,000 dollars opposed to the abolishment of pennies while only 16 percent of them favored it. What's even more surprising is that even for individuals with an income higher than 75,000 dollars, a little more than half of them opposed to the abolishment of pennies while 32 percent approved. While it is unsurprising for low income individuals to oppose the abolishment (for they use it the most) it is shocking to find that even the wealthy are against the discontinuation of pennies (Source E). Since statistic did not only disprove the misconception that pennies are unused during transactions but also underlined the support towards pennies from the masses, could we still say pennies are no longer needed in society? The answer is obviously no. Pennies are still popular within our economy and public opinion; therefore, it is illogical for pennies to be removed from usage.
- Claim is somewhat clear, but starting with “one main argument...” needs revision. Instead of the argument existing, make it clear that the argument is one you support. Make Needs eloquent and dynamic phrasing. Good use of Source C and D. Draw a stronger conclusion.



- Time is money and so why are we choosing to waste more of it by keeping pennies. It takes time out of workers days when they must wait for a buyer to “fish out pennies and then they have to count them, pack them, and take them to the bank” (source C). It takes away a total of “40 seconds per day per person” wasted when waiting in line for a change exchange (source B). Americans are wasting time and money on something that is not even worth the time it takes up. Coins are “unnecessary” and useless in everyday life (source A). We don’t even have time to even keep track of them with “2/3 of pennies dropping out of circulation.” This old pastime must be broken based on the needs of our fast-moving society.
- Please read the claim aloud and consider rephrasing. The point is clear but not strongly worded. This paragraph needs much more development. Reconsider the evidence you pick out, need more concrete information from each source. This paragraph lacks enough analysis/commentary and must draw a stronger, more developed conclusion. Please work to improve diction and syntax.



- With each passing day, money is spent. Different rates. Different inflations. Different discounts. No matter where you are, or where you go, there will always be an uneven change in the way the money works. It is nearly impossible to hope for every exchange and inflation rate to adjust for a 5-cent rounding minimum. The penny does not only effect Americans, it effects the way that we interact with the world. Paying and buying things that only exist in sums of five will not work out for many businesses. The business buys their product with the fact in mind that they bought it with the existence of being able to pay 1 cent. Now they must adjust prices in the store to make a profit, but the penny no longer exists and they must round to the nearest 5. Not only does that seem over priced (or a loss of money if rounded down) but it just could not work out. Our entire system of capitalism is based on a free market. People can sell their product at whatever prices they want, until the government intervenes. The math that it takes to make a profit rarely ends in a sum of 5. The math will never work out. The penny must exist. Not only will it keep our rates of exchange proper and but it will also allow those who don't have credit cards to be able to pay in exact change.
- Claim needs to be focused around the penny and the prompt. I like the use of anaphora and voice. From the looks of it, this piece does not synthesize the sources.



- Despite the sentimental and historical value associated with the penny, the penny is simply more trouble than it is worth, seeing as it no longer holds any real monetary value. William Safire, an author for the *New York Times*, recognized this fact and described it plainly: “You can’t buy anything with a penny anymore” (Source C). And he could not be more correct. In our daily lives, it is hard pressed to find a store that sells anything for less than a dollar, let alone a cent. Even the simplest of gumball machines let their gumballs go for at least fifty cents – that’s fifty whole pennies – and we can all agree that two quarters would get the job done much more efficiently. The economic history has proven time and time again that pennies are unsustainable, yet, the mint keeps generating billions of pennies per year. Pennies that aren’t even made of what they used to be, one might add. As described by Mark Lewis in his article for *Forbes*, “Up until 1982, pennies were made mostly of copper; since then they have been 97.5% zinc, with a little bit of copper mixed in for appearance’s sake” (Source A). What does this mean? Simply put: the penny lacks even the material makeup that once gave it its value. The U.S. Mint stopped using copper years ago, but has maintained the upkeep of pennies purely for history’s sake. But even history evolves, and with it, must everything else. Other countries such as Britain and France have already gotten rid of their low denomination coins. The world is on a track that suggests that such coins are no longer needed – it’s time the United States followed suit.
- Good qualified claim statement. Strong voice and good use of Source C. Good commentary there. Source A commentary is okay, but there may be stronger evidence among the vetted sources to strengthen and complement the argument in Source C. Phrasing and style are noticeable and effective here.



- Being the lowest denomination in the American currency, it's easy to assume that it would directly help with spending by allowing for price specific cash payments. However, the insignificance the penny holds outweighs any potential ease it could provide. Many allow their change to collect dust and/or collect them to turn it into paper money. Not only would eliminating or decreasing the circulation of the penny save Americans time, it would save them a significant amount of money too, giving them a direct and immediate turnaround reward. "Rounding off prices to the nearest nickel" would save people, like Edmund Knowles, from having to convert years' worth of pennies into cash- over thirteen thousand dollars. Besides personal money, corporations are losing paid time to counting or spending pennies. "\$60 per year [per worker or person] at a cost to the nation of over \$15 billion per year" (Source B). With that much money, problems on a national level could afford to be solved. Whether it be domestic improvements to the US or renovations to the individual corporations, that amount of money has the potential to make significant change; yet, for many it sits in a five-gallon jug or five feet deep behind a sofa.
- Claim statement seems to just be a concession, but needs to combine the ideas of sentence 1 and 2 to make a strong claim. This paragraph needs to synthesize by including another source. Voice is clear, but this paragraph needs reconsiderations on synthesis.



- In modern society, pennies are outdated, and due to inflation, they are not useful as a form of currency. It's not possible to buy anything in this country anymore with just a penny. Items that people, especially children, used to be able to buy with a penny in the 1950s require about a dime to purchase now (Source C). Back in the 1950s, kids could legitimately go out with a single penny and buy candy or small toys, but that's not possible anymore. Kids aren't excited when they're only given a penny because there's nothing to do with it. Think of some of the things kids most often spend money on: gum-ball machines, arcade games, and even \$0.99 apps now. All of those items require at least a quarter to purchase, so even the kids in the country who are the main source of using paper money rather than electronic payment have become uninterested in the penny due to economic inflation. Pennies are an annoyance more than anything else. I personally never use pennies when they end up in my wallet. I usually take them out, save them until I have a good amount, and then, give them to my dad, a coin collector, in exchange for cash. Most people don't know what to do with their extra pennies. They're really, more than anything, just "pesky one-cent coins [that] continue to jingle uselessly in people's pockets (Source A). Companies even prey on this uselessness and put out penny cups for tips, which they know will be extremely successful because people want to get rid of their spare change (Source C). If customers get change after making a purchase, it is much easier to just drop the pennies into the conveniently placed penny jar than take the time to put their change away. I know I have done this on numerous occasions. Pennies cause disruption, and they're a burden in today's fast-paced world. People have places to go and people to see, they don't have time to deal with pennies. America has trailed away from the need to have the penny as the smallest form of currency. These coins are more of a burden than what they are worth.
- Claim is clear. Great use of prior knowledge in contrast to Source C – demonstrates a clear thoughtfulness of the penny's relevance today. Wonderful use of source A and C and building on that logic. Final statement could be stronger and not so plainly stated.



- By eliminating the penny, America will drive itself into economic despair. A large difference (and one we should be fixing instead of questioning pennies) between America and other countries is the gap between poverty and wealth. In America, the capitalist life we lead sometimes lets those at the top forget American citizens who may need more help. Some Americans may need the penny to survive. For families under the poverty line, only 16% of them were truly okay with getting rid of the penny, whereas families with a large income had 32% acceptance (Source E). This is alarming for families where the saying “every penny count” applies. When you question what to scavenge for dinner, sometimes a penny makes all the difference. That’s what people may be forgetting. In the grand scheme of things, these pennies are important for the lower-class societies who are suffering. Similarly, by getting rid of the penny many prices will have to rise. When a business gets rid of the penny and must decide whether to round up or down on their prices, they will most likely always round up. Who will this hurt? The lower-class (again). Many European countries use the “Euro penny” to ensure the prices so the economy doesn’t suffer (Source D). Surprisingly, this will also hurt the businesses because it will eliminate many customers. The businesses that will suffer will be the small ones, aiding the large gap between rich and poor that burdens our country already. Therefore, getting rid of the penny is a considerable decision because it will affect the lower-class societies.
- Clear claim. Insightful look at Source E, but phrasing can improve and deepen in analysis. Good transition to combine both pieces of evidence. Last statement should be more focused and powerful.