**Mediocre Response:**

The advantages of being eighteen are numerous. First of all, it is a time when you are no longer considered a child. The majority of eighteen year olds are heading off to college. This is a new beginning because no longer will people do things for you. Now you must do it for yourself. New ideas are developed by oneself the emergence of self-discipline and being independent are very important. One of the best advantages is being on you own and doing what you want to do. This includes good studying habits, staying in shape and enjoying the night life. I find that the disadvantages are very few. The best one is leaving all your high-school friends behind. The same people you got along with for four years. Another disadvantage is unavailability of a full-time summer job, this would help cut the high cost of college tremendously. Finally the lack of respect for not living up to your fullest expectations such as top honors in high school and all-country in basketball. In closing I would like to say that being eighteen is the greatest time of life.

*This sample is somewhat weaker. Some sentences are complete, indicating control of sentence structure, while others are fragments. There is some organization to the ideas, but that organization is not consistent. The sentences are not very sophisticated in structure, but neither are they invariably simple. The writing is definitely in the middle range.*