## "FRAPPY" <br> \{Free Response AP Problem...Yay!\}

The following problem is taken from an actual Advanced Placement Statistics Examination. Your task is to generate a complete, concise statistical response in 15 minutes. You will be graded based on the AP rubric and will earn a score of $0-4$. After grading, keep this problem in your binder for your AP Exam preparation.

The Great Plains Railroad is interested in studying how fuel consumption is related to the number of railcars for its trains on a certain route between Oklahoma City and Omaha.

A random sample of 10 trains on this route has yielded the data in the table below.

| Number <br> of Railcars | Fuel Consumption <br> (units/mile) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 20 | 58 |
| 20 | 52 |
| 37 | 91 |
| 31 | 80 |
| 47 | 114 |
| 43 | 98 |
| 39 | 87 |
| 50 | 122 |
| 40 | 100 |
| 29 | 70 |

A scatterplot, a residual plot, and the output from the regression analysis for these data are shown below.


The regression equation is
Fuel Consumption $=10.7+2.15$ Railcars

| Predictor | Coef | StDev | T | P |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | ---: | :---: |
| Constant | 10.677 | 5.157 | 2.07 | 0.072 |
| Railcar | 2.1495 | 0.1396 | 15.40 | 0.000 |

$\mathrm{S}=4.361 \mathrm{R}-\mathrm{Sq}=96.7 \% \quad \mathrm{R}-\mathrm{Sq}(\mathrm{adj})=96.3 \%$

Scoring:
(a) Is the linear model appropriate for modeling these data? Clearly explain your reasoning.

## E P I

(b) Suppose the fuel consumption cost is $\$ 25$ per unit. Give a point estimate (single value) for the change in the average cost of fuel per mile for each additional railcar attached to a train. Show your work.

## E P I

(c) Interpret the value of $r^{2}$ in the context of this problem.

E P I
(d) Would it be reasonable to use the fitted regression equation to predict the fuel consumption for a train on this route if the train had 65 railcars? Explain.

## E P I

