

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Personal Writing (Unit 1, pages 36–39)

Assignment: Write a one- to two-page essay about a particularly meaningful personal experience—something you had a strong reaction to or that affected your values.

Working in Appalachia

Last summer I had the wonderful opportunity to work as a volunteer camp counselor in Appalachia. I'll never forget the things I learned there.

My main job as counselor was to teach photography to the kids. I felt good about doing my part. When I got there none of the kids had ever snapped a picture. By the time I left, they were taking good pictures with a 35 mm camera.

Even though I taught the kids how to take good photos I probably learned more from them than they learned from me. I stayed with an Appalachian family and learned many things from them. I learned that I can sit quietly and enjoy myself. I don't need all the modern distractions that I thought I needed. I learned that I can have fun doing simple things. In Appalachia, many people fill their time doing simple things. I learned so much from that.

The kids at camp taught me a lot too. They taught me to appreciate friendships and family more than anything else. The kids watched out for each other. Many of them seemed to care as much about their friend's feelings than their own. Those kids taught me to put people first.

Now that I am back home, I think about that wonderful summer a lot. I learned that the best things are life are simple and free.

Summary: *This essay clearly focuses on a significant experience and makes reference to the lessons the writer learned; however, the writing lacks specific details to make the experience come alive for the reader. The writing could be improved by adding sensory details and specific examples and by eliminating errors in grammar and spelling throughout the piece.*

This piece might receive a 3 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 83 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—30 points for Focus/Organization, 26 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 27 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Opening identifies the significant personal experience.

Establishes an appropriate tone, but lacks sufficient detail

Explores the personal meaning of the experience, but includes repetitious statements

Lacks specific examples to support ideas

Conclusion states main lesson learned but seems underdeveloped.