

Below-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.

Appalchia

I got to go to appalchia last summer and it was pretty amazing to me. I was a volunteer camp counselor at a camp for underprivileged children. I stayed with a family in a little cabin in appalchia.

The house where I stayed was different than my house in Texas. They do things much different there. You ain't in Kansas anymore, as the saying goes! Even though they do things different I liked it a lot. Thats why I learned so much.

I learned many things both from the kids and the family I stayed with. They were really super cool. My main job was to teach photography. Most of the kids had never even taken a picture in their whole entire lives. I taught them how to use a camera and it wasn't just a cheap camera it was a 35 mm. They learned how to focus and do everything else to run the camera. I also helped out by doing other chores.

In conclusion, appalchia changed the way I live today. I am glad that I had the chance to go there and learn so much.

Summary: *This essay focuses on a significant experience, but the writing is not fully developed. The essay repetitiously states that the writer learned many things from the experience, but the writing lacks specific details to adequately describe the experience and the lessons learned. Also, the writing uses an inconsistent and inappropriate tone. The piece could be improved by supporting the general statements with more specific sensory details, by eliminating repetitive statements, by maintaining a consistent tone that fits the essay's audience and purpose, and by eliminating the grammatical and spelling errors.*

This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 67 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—26 points for Focus/Organization, 21 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 20 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Opening introduces the significant event but includes spelling and capitalization errors.

Adopts an inappropriate tone; lacks sufficient detail about the people, place, and event

Fails to explore the personal impact of the experience

Conclusion states main idea but includes an awkward transition and is undeveloped.