

Name Class Date

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Personal Writing (Unit 1, pages 24–27)

Assignment: For a magazine directed at ten- to fifteen-year-old students, write a one-page article about a special day or event in your life.

Our Holiday Parade

I like to have vacations from school. Sometimes my mom cooks pancakes for us. I get to sleep in late and do whatever I want all day. We don't have school on Martin Luther King Day. Our teacher said think of something special to do for Dr. King. We studied him in class. One girl said we should write a poem for Dr. King. Our teacher said good idea. He had the whole class think of other ways, too. He said we should spend our holiday doing something in memery of Dr. King. Our list covered the whole board. One of the ideas was to organize a parade.

Me and some of my friends got together and talked about the parade idea. We like to play music and put on shows. We asked our brothers and sisters to join us. We would walk through the streets of our neighborhood with signs about Dr. King. The parade would end at the park. Someone would read a poem about Dr. King and we would sing something that he had sang and we would all go home. Isaiah said we should make signs, too.

We spent lots of time getting ready for the parade, and it was fun. I don't know what difference it would make for Dr. King. I liked the parade, though. Once, I saw one downtown, and it was huge, it had marching bands and fire trucks and all kinds of people. I really loved that parade but I wasn't in it. Just watching. I was worried the morning before we started our parade but then I was glad some people came out of their houses to see us. Some people sang with us. Sondra read her poem. Everyone clapped. They seemed happy.

Summary: *This account tells about a special event and relates details in a logical order, but it contains some irrelevant details and significant grammatical errors. The piece could be improved by focusing more specifically on the details that made this particular event important to the writer and by eliminating unnecessary information.*

This piece might receive a 2 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 72 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—27 for Focus/Organization, 25 for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 20 for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Opening paragraph lacks clear focus and transitions but does introduce the topic.

Includes some relevant details about a special event

Includes a run-on sentence, a sentence fragment, and unimportant details

Doesn't clearly explain what made the event special to the writer