Below-average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Descriptive Writing (Unit 3, pages 138–141)

Assignment: Write a one-page magazine article describing people, places, and things associated with your favorite hobby.

Descriptive Writing

Dance Class

I like dance class because its fun. We dance to drummers and its fun when the teacher dances to. She's really good.

When we dance you use your hands in front of you or over your head. Sometimes the dance tells a story. A lot of dances are from some ceremones. Keisha says not to worry about things like in other dance classes. She lets us do lots of stuff. Laughing and stuff like that.

The place where we have class is really big but sometimes if its nice we go outside. Thats my favorite thing but you have to be careful because of things like bees. You could get stung and that would be dangerous if you were allergik. My mom is allergik but I don't think I am.

I like to dance a lot but it's really hard every time I get really tired and sweaty. But I like it because I never like playing sports very much but this is different.

Opening introduces topic but lacks sufficient detail.

Shift from first-person to second-person point of view makes sentence confusing.

Contains vague language and irrelevant details

Grammatical errors and ineffective transitions make ideas hard to follow.

Summary: *This article focuses on a favorite hobby, but the piece needs to be more vivid and better organized. The writing could be improved by revising it to include more specific language and sensory details, by eliminating irrelevant details, and by correcting usage, spelling, and punctuation errors.*

This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 62 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—21 points for Focus/Organization, 22 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 19 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.