

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Descriptive Writing (Unit 3, pages 152–155)

Assignment: In one or two pages, write a description of your school that will convey what it's like from a student's point of view.

A City School

Cities are culturally diverse and so is our school. My class is about one-third Hispanic, one-third Chinese, and the rest white and African American. The school is located right near a neighborhood called the Mission, which has great *tacquerias* on every other street corner. Many immigrants from Mexico and Central America live in the Mission. My parents, for example, are from El Salvador. Sometimes, you can hear Spanish almost as much as English at our school. To honor this diversity, students made a bright, colorful mural last spring on a school wall. It represented our cultural and historical heroes.

Instead of concentrating on sports, our school has a great art program. Future football players go to another nearby public school. Our soccer team is pretty good. We have a basketball team, but it is not very good or popular. Once I attended a game against another school, and I was one of five or six people from my school there.

The art department takes up the whole fourth floor of the building. Some of the studios there are light and airy, with big windows that overlook the nearby park. The largest studio is the painting studio and it has about thirty easels scattered around the room, with half-finished paintings propped on them, drying. The slight smell of turpentine lingers in the air. It has become comforting to me. On the other side of the stairs from the painting studio, is a dance studio and photo-developing room. Sometimes you'll see students from our school going around the neighborhood with cameras, working on their assignments.

Our school is all about diversity and creativity, just like the city that we live in.

Summary: *This description contains some useful information about the writer's school, but that information isn't organized effectively. The piece could have been improved by using a moving vantage point and by consistently providing more specific details. The writing style could be improved by replacing some of the passive and general verbs with more energetic verbs.*

This piece might receive a 3 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive an 80 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—25 for Focus/Organization, 30 for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 25 for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Lead includes some factual details but lacks energetic verbs.

Good topic sentence, but paragraph focuses on irrelevant details.

Provides interesting details and uses vivid, sensory language

Ending states thesis but could use more development.