

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Below-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.

Our School

Our school is located in the middle of San Francisco. When you get off the bus at the corner you'll see an impressive building. White stone that gets real hot in the sun. The steps are sometimes too hot to sit on.

A lot of kids get to school early to hang out. Sometimes I bring my skateboard and practice skateboarding with my friends in the park across the street. The rule is no skateboards in school, so I put my skateboard in my locker. Once a kid got in trouble for skateboarding down the hallway and knocking a teacher over. He got suspended. Some other guys practice hoops in the court at the park. Some girls stand in a group. Dogs bark in the park and trees are in front of the school.

That's my school on a nice day but when it rains in the winter there's no where to hang out and everything gets messy and wet. The school has four stories. Inside you can find a big auditorium, the principals office, and lots of classrooms. On the top floor you can find a big art studio and a dark room that develops photos. If you take a photo class, you can borrow the camera from the school and walk around taking pictures of whatever you want. That's one cool thing about my school.

Summary: *This piece manages to convey some sense of the writer's point of view, but the description lacks an effective vantage point and organizational strategy. In addition, the writing includes several irrelevant details and contains spelling and grammatical errors throughout. The piece could be improved if the vantage point that is implied in the first paragraph—that of someone arriving at the school and approaching it—were maintained.*

This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 64 if scored by the analytic method—23 for Focus/Organization, 23 for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 18 for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Opening introduces vantage point but has spelling and grammatical errors.

Loses vantage point; ideas lack transitions

Contains vague, unrelated details that hinder clarity