

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Narrative Writing (Unit 4, pages 200–203)

Assignment: Write a one- to two-page narrative that could serve as an introduction to a longer work of fiction.

Marilou and the Parties

Last summer was when my great-aunt Marilou told me about Mr. Patterson. He moved into the new house by hers. His house had been built from scratch. I had never seen it before. It was all purple and looked like a miniature castle. Marilou said Mr. Patterson was very rich.

I usually visit Marilou during the summer. I take the train from our town to the town near her house. It takes about an hour and a half. We spend the week swimming, reading, and painting watercolors.

Last summer, Marilou was very angry, though. I could tell because her red hair was messy. She kept complaining about loud parties, too. This was not how she usually acted. She made some tea for us and we talked for a while.

“What do you want for dinner?” she asked.

“I don’t know,” I said.

“How about spaghetti?”

“Okay,” I said.

After dinner, we had ice cream. We heard music coming from Mr. Patterson’s house. At first it sounded good, but then it started sounding like a loud party with too many people.

My aunt got more upset. She decided to read her book and stay inside. So I decided to take a walk to the beach. The moon was full that night. I felt like something strange was going to happen any minute, but I didn’t know what it could be.

Order of events is difficult to follow.

Description of main character and potential conflict lacks sufficient detail.

Dialogue sounds realistic but doesn’t advance plot.

Ending is suspenseful, but the story complication is too vague.

Summary: This narrative introduces a potential conflict—Marilou’s frustration with her new neighbor—and the ending leaves readers aware that something might happen next, yet the narrative doesn’t maintain sufficient focus to make the story complication clear. The narrative could be improved by adding vivid details and relevant dialogue to develop the characters and plot.

This piece would probably receive a 2 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 78 if evaluated by the analytic method—30 points for Focus/Organization, 25 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 23 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.