

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: The Writing Process (Unit 2, pages 100–103)

Assignment: Write a two-page essay about a particularly meaningful personal experience—something you had a strong reaction to or that affected your values.

Going with the Flow

Could life get any worse than this? That's what I wondered on one fateful Saturday in my tenth year.

"Richard and I are getting married" my mom said.

The wedding was on a Saturday in the backyard and I had to keep my dog Checkers in my bedroom the whole time because my mom didn't want him jumping on her dress. The party lasted a long time and was kind-of fun. Some of my friends came to it. We ended up playing basketball in the driveway until it got really late outside that night.

My real father died when I was really young so my mother was the only parent I ever knew. I hated the idea of her getting married again. I thought the only person she should ever have as her husband was my dad. When she started dating Richard, I had to stay home with a sitter. I didn't like Richard at all at first because it seemed like he was taking my mother away from me. She used to take me everywhere before him.

Richard ended up being a great Stepdad. Now I can't imagine my life without him. Because hockey is my main sport and one of my favorite past times. He got me interested in hockey.

Also, I learned to go with the flow. Before mom and Richard got married, I used to worry a lot. Fear is usually worse than reality, though. I think I'm pretty flexible today. When a big change comes up, I tell myself that things will be okay. For example, a couple years ago, we moved to this city. I figured things had worked out well before so why couldn't this work out? Now I'm glad I'm here.

Summary: This essay focuses on a significant experience in the writer's childhood and states how the experience has affected the writer. However, the essay is poorly organized, and general statements are not adequately supported by specific details throughout the piece. The writing could be improved by eliminating the third paragraph, by adding vivid details and dialogue that bring the experience to life, and by adding effective transitions to connect the ideas and details both within and between paragraphs.

This piece might receive a 2 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 77 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—26 points for Focus/Organization, 28 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 23 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Opening sets up event but uses an unnatural tone.

Dialogue is bland and incorrectly punctuated.

Paragraph does not seem relevant to overall essay and includes grammatical errors.

Provides helpful background information, but lacks clear transitions

Lacks specific details and a logical sentence order

Conclusion states the impact of the experience but doesn't flow naturally from the preceding paragraph.