

Name ..... Class ..... Date .....

## Below-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

I used to play little league when I was a kid. I loved baseball and it used to be my favorite sport. Now I like hockey best though. My Coach says if I keep playing as good as I do now that I'll probably get a scholarship to college. I started playing hockey after my Mom married Richard.

Before that though I didn't know if I would like him very much. Not as my Dad anyway. One day when I got home my Mom sat me down. Her then boyfriend Richard was there too. She told me "I have big news. Were getting married."

As far as I was conserved, this was the worst news she could have said. I didn't like Richard then because he took all my Mom's attenshun. I never had a babysitter until Richard came along. I don't anymore because I'm too old for one but then I figured when they got married that my life would never be the same again. But things worked out okay really. Richard and I get along now and I like him a lot. He's my Dad now not just my Step-Dad. He plays hockey just like I do. Actually, he taught me how to play and got me started. You never know when something happens how it will work out. This time things worked out pretty well.

*Opening is not engaging or clearly relevant.*

*Uses transitions between most sentences, but includes grammatical errors*

*Lacks specific details and an effective organizing strategy to support ideas*

**Summary:** *This essay attempts to describe a significant childhood experience and its impact on the writer's life. However, the essay is poorly organized, lacks specific details and examples, and contains grammatical errors that interfere with the writer's meaning. The writing could be improved by replacing the opening with more engaging and relevant statements; by creating a clear introduction, body, and conclusion with effective transitions; by adding vivid details and dialogue that bring the experience to life; and by eliminating the grammatical and spelling errors.*

*This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 63 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—21 points for Focus/Organization, 23 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 19 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.*