

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Below-average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Persuasive Writing (Unit 6, pages 306–309)

Assignment: Write a three- to five-page persuasive essay supporting the position that a particular cultural ingredient is of paramount importance in making people who they are.

Daughter's Duty

I once heard a line in an old Western. One cowboy said to the other. "We don't owe anyone anything, except the people we owe money to." But what about the people we leave behind, who may need us and suffer from our absence? They just holding us back they are selfish and dependent. Americans don't think they have a responsibility to other people. My friends' summer job money gets spent on CDs and cool clothes. My summer job money goes straight into my mother's pocket-book for groceries and for bills. Other Vietnamese families its sometimes like this too. These are different cultural attitudes. They affect our lives—as you can see, my friends have a lot more money than I do. My friend Tom is a third generation American. He works at a pet store after school. His mom isn't home until late. His mom was never home when he was growing up. She was working and in med school. Is this selfish? I don't know, but I think so. She needed job to pay for everything because his father left them, but still. That's just wrong. He told me he doesn't think of himself as having a family. He never sees his grandparents or cousins. He says he's glad he don't owe whole bunch of people something just because of blood.

In Vietnam, children are expected to put their family's needs before their own. Like in my family. All my sisters and I have turned over our summer job money to my mother who uses it to buy groceries. My friends feel sorry for me and say my mom is cruel, but she only doing what she needs to do for the family. This makes me me.

I am the youngest daughter in my family and in Vietnamese culture, the youngest daughter has responsibility of taking care of her parents when they are old and sick. On the other hand, a lot of Americans do charity, but then they'll kick one of their own family members out of the house and put them in a nursing home. My friend Shirleys' grandma is in a nursing home and there's nothing wrong with her that I can see.

Has an engaging opening but lacks an effective thesis

Attempts to address the assigned topic

Tone is overly informal.

Relationship between ideas is not clear.

Lacks a conclusion

Summary: *Although it attempts to treat the assigned topic, this essay lacks a clear thesis and organizational structure. The piece also doesn't contain much supporting evidence and does not come close to meeting the assigned length. The writing could be improved if the writer did some more freewriting on the topic, focusing on how specific people's relationships to their families affect the way they develop. Then the ideas generated in the freewriting could be presented in some kind of logical order.*

The essay might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 61 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—18 points for Focus/Organization, 20 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 23 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.