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

Below-average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Descriptive Writing (Unit 3, pages 138–141)

Assignment: Write a one-page travel article about a special place.

Descriptive Writing

My Favorite Restaurant

My grandmother is a good cook. I like her food better than most restaurants. But sometimes on our trips I like this one restaurant because it reminds me of her old house because both have the same smells as in her kitchen when she is cooking. Its called El Mariachi.

Opening does not clearly introduce topic and contains a run-on sentence.

The food there is all different kinds. Chimichangas, beans, rice, tacos, burritos, lots of cheese, other things. I don't like really spicy food that much. You can get spicy food there but you don't have to. I like one pepper. I always get the chimichanga. The music is loud and that is not the best thing to some people.

Includes some sensory details but lacks specific language and transitions

Once my grandma came with us and we all went to dinner. She wants to cook a lot but sometimes we say she needs to rest. For my birthday I want to go to her house, thogh. She has piñatas too. She makes the best food, even better than hamburgers and French fries. Those are my favorites. Sometimes she teaches me to cook. So does my mom and my dad. My grandma doesn't need recipes.

Irrelevant details confuse focus.

Everyone should go to El Mariachi sometime.

Ending is not a complete paragraph; statement needs more support.

Summary: *The piece tells about a special place, but it is not presented as a travel article, and the writing contains many irrelevant details and grammatical errors. The piece could be improved by revising it to include a clearer opening paragraph and by replacing vague, general words with more vivid, specific words. The piece could also be improved by including details that reflect all five senses, by adding clear transitions, 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 64 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—20 points for Focus/Organization, 24 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 20 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.