

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Personal Writing (Unit 1, pages 36–39)

Assignment: For the school yearbook, write a two-page essay in which a photograph of yourself is the basis for exploring and sharing an aspect of your personality.

The Swing

This photo shows me swinging at the play ground by my house. My friend Kristin was sitting in front of me and when I swang over head she took the picture. It's nice outside and I have this smile on my face and I'm squinting. It's not a super good picture of me but I like it any way.

Usually I hate looking at pictures of my self. I think I look bad most of the time. But in this picture I'm actually kind of relaxed and having fun. I didn't know she was going to take a picture of me, so I wasn't worrying about what I looked like.

The funny part is what happened afterwards. A few seconds later, I fell out of the swing and broke my leg. I had to go to the emergency room and get a cast. Having a broken leg was pretty bad at first. My mom had to drive me to school and I was tired all the time.

I was in a cast for eight weeks, but after three weeks I got a walking cast. Kristin decorated the cast for me, which got me a lot of attention. I'm usually shy around people I don't know. But I didn't want to be rude and also I needed to ask for help sometimes. Most of the time people were really nice, even people who I thought didn't like me.

I'm nervous about going to college in the fall because I don't know if I'll make friends or not. It's all really intimidatating sometimes. But maybe going far away to school is the best thing I could do.

So I like this picture of me on the swing because in the photograph I'm happy and relaxed. I'm not worried about what might happen in the future, I'm just having fun and swinging like I was a little kid again. Good thing to because if I knew what was about to happen I would be more worried! But breaking your leg isn't the end of the world. I definately learned things about my self while I was in that cast. I think I learned that the best thing to do is to not worry so much about how I'm percieved—it's better to just be my self. I better just enjoy the present while I can.

Summary: *This piece is nicely introspective, but the writing often uses general statements that are not adequately supported by specific details. More attention to detail and an effective use of transitions to connect ideas and make the order of events clear would improve the writing.*

This piece might receive a 2 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 79 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—29 points for Focus/Organization, 26 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 24 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Opening describes photograph.

Maintains a casual, thoughtful tone

Uses some effective transitions and follows a clear chronological order, but lacks specific details

Unclear where and when events are happening

Ideas and feelings need clearer connections to the photograph.

Conclusion includes relevant insights, but some statements contain grammatical and spelling errors and are contradictory.