

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

## Below-average Writing Model

### Writing Process in Action: Narrative Writing (Unit 4, pages 192–195)

**Assignment:** Write a two-page narrative that could serve as part of a longer chapter about a pivotal event in your life.

#### Dancing Capoeira

An important thing happened in 10th grade when I met Paul who teaches Capoeira and started a troop for people who practice this kind of dance. Before I started doing Capoeira I was always bored and I had nothing that I was good at. Also, I was out of shape then. Now I've been a member of Paul's Capoeira troop for almost two years and I've been all over performing with them.

One day Paul walked into our Gym class. He was auditioning us without us even knowing it and so while we played indoor soccer he watched the way we ran. Or our other athletic abilities and stuff like that. Capoeira takes a lot of upper body strength. Capoeira is done usually to live drumming. When I first started to do Capoeira my body hurt like crazy but now I am a lot more strong. I can bench more than 190 pounds easy.

Because they were friends our teacher introduced us to Paul. He told us about Capoeira. Then he called some names but mine wasn't on the list. I didn't understand why not. But I played it cool, but inside I was hurt.

Then Paul said "Oh yeah, is Bryce here?"

"Yeah" I said. He had just forgot my name on the list somehow.

**Summary:** *This narrative attempts to respond to the prompt, but the writing shows a poor understanding of plot and doesn't attempt to use any suspense-creating devices to hold the reader's interest. In addition, the piece lacks vivid details and includes grammatical errors that interfere with its meaning. The writing could be improved by using a careful, sequential ordering of events to retell the story and by adding more vivid details to convey the emotional impact of the event and to capture the reader's interest.*

*This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 67 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—21 points for Focus/Organization, 23 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 23 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.*

*Opening tries to explain the impact of event on writer's life but lacks suspense.*

*Introduces some relevant details, but grammatical errors and irrelevant details make the paragraph confusing*

*Language is vague and repetitive; writing lacks sufficient detail.*

*Dialogue sounds realistic but does not add suspense or convey emotion.*