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

Below-average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Personal Writing (Unit 1, pages 28–31)

Assignment: Write a one-page article about a special day or event.

Northern Lights

The Northern Lights are very cool. You cannot believe it if you see them at first. It is amazing. Like a movie or something.

I've seen them and so have my Mom, Dad and Sister. No one in my class has not even my teacher. We all saw them on a camping trip. Which was last summer. They took a long time and I didn't know what they were. No one did accept the ranger. He told us everything. I asked him a lot of questions.

The stars were very bright and big. They told me the names but I forgot them. The Big Dipper and Little Dipper are two, and some planets. They looked like stars, too. I've saw all them but not the Northern Lights again. I look at the sky a lot. Especially before I go to sleep at night. But so far I haven't seen nothing like that again. I told my class and friends. No one else has seen them.

My sister showed me them first. I didn't think they were anything then. Now I know. They were by the lake but then they kept going everywhere across the sky.

Opening introduces an aspect of the topic but does not use the first person.

Throughout, sequence of events are unclear and details are hard to follow.

Writing is choppy, and antecedents are unclear.

Ends mid-thought and does not describe the event's significance

Summary: *The article tells about a special experience, but it lacks sufficient detail and precise vocabulary, and it contains grammatical errors that interfere with its meaning. The article could be improved if general statements were supported by specific details and vivid language. The piece could also be improved by making the order of events and the experience's significance to the author clear.*

This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 65 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—25 points for Focus/Organization, 22 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 18 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.