

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Above-average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Narrative Writing (Unit 4, pages 184–187)

Assignment: Write a one-page story about an event that shows why a particular person is special to you.

The Last-Minute Bathing Suit

All week, the sun had been beating down on everything in sight. The sunflowers in the backyard drooped. The grass looked parched. Charlotte, my babysitter when I was eight, sat in the house. She fanned herself with a magazine. She was too hot to finish her housework.

My mother had dropped me off at Charlotte's house that morning at nine o'clock on her way to work but had forgotten to pack my bathing suit. The only thing I wanted to do was run through the sprinkler in Charlotte's backyard. I couldn't without a bathing suit though. But I couldn't think of anything else to do in the blazing heat, so I went inside to complain to Charlotte.

"I'm bored!" I said. I had already said that about twenty times that day.

Charlotte patiently stroked the sweaty strands of hair off my forehead. She handed me a glass of iced tea. "Why don't you tell me another story?" she suggested.

"I'm too hot," I said. "I wish I could run through the sprinkler."

"Why don't you," she said?

"Because I don't have my bathing suit!" I whined.

Charlotte was quiet for a minute. I thought she was annoyed with me, but then she just laughed and popped up from the couch. She told me to drink my glass of ice tea.

"By the time you finish, maybe I'll have a surprise for you," she said.

I was about to search for her when she walked into the living room with some fabric in her hand. As she tossed the fabric into my lap, it fell into two separate pieces. She had sewn her favorite dishtowel into a homemade bathing suit for me!

The dishtowel bathing suit had a thick elastic seam to hold up the top and bottoms. As the sprinkler drenched me, the cloth soaked up so much water that I had to hold onto the waist to keep the bottoms from falling down my legs. I didn't care. I ran through the sprinkler again and again. I felt the cool water on my toes, arms, and face. I didn't feel hot or bored anymore. I knew I was lucky to have the best babysitter in the world.

Opening uses vivid details to engage readers' interest and to establish setting, conflict, and characters.

Provides important background information

Dialogue advances story and develops characters' personality.

Transitions and specific word choices make order of events clear.

Sensory details bring the scene to life; direct statements provide a clear resolution.

Summary: The story vividly presents an event that shows why a particular person is special to the writer. Dialogue and details are used to good effect.

This piece would probably receive a 4 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 99 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—35 points for Focus/Organization, 35 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 29 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.