

Name Class Date

Below-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 Bathing Suit

Once, I had this babysitter but she moved. Her name was Charlotte. It was summer then. My mom had to work. It was hot. I didn't have a bathing suit and I was bored. I use to run thru the sprinkler if I had my bathing suit. At home I had one but not at Charlottes house that day. She was sitting inside. Because it was so hot. I went in and outside but I wanted to be outside in the sprinkler.

Charlotte had a favorite dish towel. It was from her wedding. It was a little old but it was a good one. Made of a special cloth. She told me. Her husband was at work during the day. She didn't have no kids yet.

After she made me that bathing suit, I was happy. I ran through the sprinkler all day. That bathing suit got very wet! I took it home with me. Later I kept it at Charlottes house so that I would have one there too. It didn't last long because I keep growing and it didn't stay up all the time but it was my favorite because Charlotte made it for me and that was good.

Before I got the bathing suit I was bored. I told Charlotte. She said to "drink my tea". I did but then I was bored and I didn't know what to do. I had already sat in the living room and drank the ice tea. I didn't know that she had sewed the bathing suit then and she gave it to me. She did that fast! It fit me too. I don't know how she did that.

"Thanks!"

Summary: *The story attempts to describe an event and a special person, but the time order is too unclear for the reader to understand exactly what is happening or why the person is special. The story could be improved if the details were made more specific throughout, if the middle paragraphs were re-ordered to fit a chronological time order, and if a clear ending were added.*

This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 69 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—26 points for Focus/Organization, 25 points for Evaluation/Support/Style, and 18 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Vague language makes setting and order of events unclear.

Irrelevant details and grammatical errors are distracting.

Poor use of transitions and unclear time order make the conflict hard to identify.

Dialogue doesn't move the story forward or reveal character; ending lacks closure.