

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: The Writing Process (Unit 2, pages 86–89)

Assignment: For a school newspaper, write a two-paragraph account of an exciting event in your life.

The Recital

Backstage at the recital it was really warm. I was wearing a suit. It was really tight, and I wasn't used to wearing a tie, so I kept sweating. Before we started, Jason and I peeked through the curtain to see who was there. I couldn't find my mom though. Then, Ms. Jackson said it was time to start. I was super nervous and my hands were shaking. I had to start the whole song off, and I wasn't sure I knew the part. I was nervous.

When everybody stopped clapping, Ms. Jackson picked up her baton. This was the sign for me to start the song. I raised my trumpet to my lips and took a deep nervous breath. Then I blew and heard the music coming out of the trumpet. I blew loudly and I was surprised it sounded so good. Then the other trumpets joined in the song. They sounded good to me. All of a sudden I wasn't nervous. I felt good.

Summary: *The piece conveys the tension building backstage at the recital, but the spelling errors and repetition distract from the mood of excitement and suspense. The piece could be improved if the situation were described in more detail and if the repeated words were replaced with more specific expressions.*

This piece might receive a 2 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 77 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—30 points for Focus/Organization, 24 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 23 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Effective opening sentence shows what's happening.

Good use of sensory detail, but misspellings distract from the focus

Effective use of transition to connect ideas

Good conclusion but repetitive use of language