

Writing Assessment and Evaluation Rubrics

Name Class Date

Average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Persuasive Writing (Unit 6, pages 306–309)

Assignment: Prepare a one- to two-page speech persuading ninth graders to take a particular course of action in order to avoid a common pitfall of high school.

Orange Neon Socks

When you start high school, you get lots of pressure to buy expensive clothes. But this is not a good idea for lots of reasons.

First it's too expensive. Most of the clothes that your friends will pressure you to buy have brand names. One shirt will usually cost you \$60 to \$70. An ordinary T-shirt might run \$45. After you spend all your money on these expensive clothes, you don't have enough left over to do other fun things.

A second reason is that you end up feeling anxious when you let other people decide what is cool for you. Believe me that's a drag.

Lastly it doesn't let you develop your own style. Creating your own style of dressing is lots of fun. I found this out by accident. One day at the mall I saw a pair of orange neon socks. My friends told me not to buy them but I really liked the way they glowed. They looked like me. Plus they were cheap.

I had lots of fun wearing those socks. From then on I started buying more things that I liked. Pretty soon they thought it was cool. Plus they liked hitting me up for loans since I suddenly had lots of extra bank. So my advice is to not let yourself feel pressured to buy fads. Get something that reflects your own personality. Maybe a pair of orange neon socks?

Summary: This speech presents convincing arguments to persuade a ninth-grade audience to follow a course of action. However, the beginning of the speech is not engaging, and some of the arguments are not well developed. The speech could be improved by further developing the argument in the second paragraph and by opening with a vivid anecdote, an attention-getting statement, or a display of enthusiasm.

This piece would probably receive a 3 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive an 88 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—33 points for Focus/Organization, 28 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 27 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Opening presents a course of action but doesn't engage readers.

Persuasive arguments reflect sound reasoning.

A well-organized flow of ideas, but the main point is underdeveloped

Transitions into paragraphs are clear; good use of anecdote to support an argument.

Unclear pronoun referents; throughout, lack of commas with introductory phrases and clauses