

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

## Below-average Writing Model

### Writing Process in Action: Personal Writing (Unit 1, pages 36–39)

**Assignment:** For the school yearbook, write a two-page essay in which a photograph of yourself is the basis for exploring and sharing an aspect of your personality.

#### My Photograph

My freind Kristin took this picture of me. It was right before I broke my leg. Like seconds before. I like it because I look happy in it and usualy I don't like having my picture taken, they turn out so dumb looking and awful.

This one is a pretty cool picture though if I had to pick one. She sat on the ground and then when I swung over her head I looked down and she took the picture. I look kind of funny because of the way she was holding the camera and because of how I'm kind of over her smiling and stuff, but I like it.

What happened next was so crazy though because right after she took the picture I fell off the swing and broke my leg. It hurt so bad! I had to wear a cast for eight weeks too. It was kind of annoying at first but after a while it was ok because Kristin decorated it with flowers and drawings and it looked cool.

When I got the cast off finally I was psyched. This picture always reminds me of that whole thing.

**Summary:** *This essay focuses on a photograph, but the piece does not give the reader sufficient insight into the writer's personality. Also, while the piece attempts to describe the photograph and the writer's experiences, often the word choices are too vague to create vivid images or clear ideas. The writing could be improved by using more specific language, by correcting spelling and grammar usage throughout the piece, and by adding a complete conclusion that more fully connects the photograph to the writer's personality.*

*This piece might receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 67 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—26 points for Focus/Organization, 20 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 21 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.*

*Title is too generic for the purpose of assignment.*

*Opening describes photo but includes spelling and grammatical errors.*

*Uses some transitions, but sentence structures and descriptions are ineffective*

*Vague word choices and pronoun references make ideas hard to follow.*

*Conclusion does not adequately convey the writer's insights.*