

**STUDENT-CREATED
WRITING ACTIVITIES
WITH
ANALYTICAL RUBRICS**

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STUDENT-CREATED WRITING ACTIVITIES

Critique the following writing activities and decide if the rubrics are appropriate for the task.

Sample 1:

Leslie Fowler
Winter 1996

Writing Activity – Chapter 5 – Homework

Imagine that you and your family are selling your house or apartment. It is your job to write an advertisement for the local newspaper, “La Prensa”. Write an ad that you feel best describes your house/apartment. Include at least six descriptions (rooms, size, yard, etc.) the location, and a phone number. Make sure to check agreement in number and gender.

Modelo

SE VENDE Casa con cinco habitaciones, dos baños, y una cocina grande. Tiene un piso con dos cocheras pero no tiene jardín. Avenida A 503, Heredia, Costa Rica. C.P. 580096

Rubric

_____	Did you include at least six things describing your house and was the spelling accurate?	12 points
_____	Did you include the address and telephone number and put them in the appropriate form?	<u>3</u> points
_____	Total	Total possible 15 points

Sample 2

Amy Busbee
Winter 1996

Your new pen pal is Pilar Alvarez

You have a new pen pal whose name is Pilar Alvarez Cardenas. She is twenty years old and lives in Madrid, the capital of Spain. She is a student of design and graphic art at the Spanish Institute of Business. She works a few hours a week as an operator for a telephone company.

Below you will find the letter from Pilar. Read the letter to learn more about Pilar and her life in Madrid.

Estimada amiga:

Mi nombre es Pilar Alvarez Cárdenas. Tengo veinte años y vivo en Madrid, la capital de España. Soy estudiante de diseño y artes gráficas en el Instituto Español del Comercio. Trabajo de operadora algunas horas a la semana para la Compañía Telefónica.

Mis amigos dicen que soy alegre y extrovertida. Me gustan mucho las fiestas, el cine y la música. La música moderna de España es muy divertida, sobre todo el "Rock y el Tecno Pop". Mis conjuntos favoritos son Mecano y El Último de la Fila. En mi tiempo libre me gusta escribir cartas a los amigos que tengo en todo el mundo.

En Madrid comparto un piso pequeño con mi hermana, Gloria. Ella estudia psicología. Vivimos cerca del Parque del Retiro y del Museo del Prado. Cuando no quiero estudiar más, doy un paseo por el parque, que es enorme. Me gusta mucho caminar cuando hace sol.

Voy al Prado casi todos los domingos. Me gustan especialmente las obras de Goya, Velázquez, y Picasso. Después de ir al museo, casi siempre paseo por la Gran Vía y me tomo café en algún lugar de buen ambiente. Cerca de mi casa hay una discoteca muy buena. Los sábados por la noche voy a bailar allí con mis amigos.

Mi hermana, Gloria, dice que vivimos en un lugar ideal porque todo está cerca y siempre hay algo que hacer. A mí también me gusta donde vivimos, pero la verdad es que a veces es difícil estudiar con tantas distracciones. Escribame muy pronto.

Muy atentamente

Pilar Alvarez

For this assignment: Answer Pilar's letter telling her about yourself and your life. Because this is a letter, you will need to have an appropriate beginning and ending. (Look at Pilar's letter to see how it is done.) Also, you will need to include the following items in your letter.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ---Your age | --What you do with your free time |
| --Where you live | --Include any activities you do over the weekends |
| --Who you live with | --What are you studying at Auburn University |
| --Your personality | --Two questions you would like for Pilar to answer |
| --Favorite things (e.g. music, food) | |

Because it is courteous to respond to your pen pal's letter promptly, this assignment will be due on Wednesday, January 30th.

RUBRIC FOR GRADING THE ASSIGNMENT

_____	Does the student use the appropriate opening and closing for a pen pal letter?	5 pts
_____	Does the student include the ten required items as specified above?	45 pts
_____	Does the student use the correct form of the present tense?	15 pts
_____	Does the student use adjectives accurately when describing? (i.e. they agree in number and in gender, and are in the correct position)	15 pts
_____	Does the student show that the letter has been proofread, and is it free of misplaced accents, incorrectly spelled words, or misplaced punctuation?	<u>5 pts</u>
_____	Total	Total possible 100 pts

Sample 3

Stephanie Stephenson

Winter 1996

You and your best friend decided to cook dinner together tonight at seven o'clock. You decided to stop by after school around three o'clock to talk about what to fix. But to your surprise, she's not at home. She had to stay for a last minute student council meeting.

You decide to leave her a note asking what she wants to eat. In your note, you will include at least two choices each of beverages, main dishes, side dishes, and desserts. Remember, your note has to be understandable so your friend can read it. (By the way, she only speaks Spanish). Please use at least six sentences and be original as well. Good luck!

Ejemplo:

Querida Carmen:

Pasé por tu casa esta tarde pero tú no estabas. Pues, ¿Qué quieres cenar esta noche? Tengo té o café y también pan francés si lo quieres y está delicioso. De carne hay pollo y puerco y los dos están buenos. Frijoles, patatas y zanahorias siempre son sabrosos con la carne. Y de postre hay helado y galletas. Pues, es tu decisión.

Abrazos

Margarita

RUBRIC FOR WRITING ACTIVITY

_____	Used the correct amount of required vocabulary appropriately	8 pts
_____	Used the correct number of sentences	6 pts
_____	Grammatical accuracy and spelling	3 pts
_____	Quality of end product	2 pts
_____	Originality	<u>1 pt</u>
_____	Total	Total possible 20 pts

Sample 4

Melyn Roberson
Winter 1996

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

You are writing an article to include in the school paper that will be buried in a time capsule to be opened at your 20 year class reunion. In your article you want to include details about what your life will be like in 20 years. Be creative and be sure to answer the following questions in your article and use the future tense at least 10 times.

En 20 años...

1. ¿Cuántos años tendrás?
2. ¿Dónde vivirás?
3. ¿Tendrás un esposo o una esposa?
4. ¿Tendrás un hijo o unos hijos? ¿Cuántos?
5. ¿Trabajarás? ¿Dónde trabajarás? ¿Qué harás?
6. Si no trabajarás, ¿Qué harás?
7. ¿Cómo serás?

Modelo:

En 20 años, tendré 37 años de edad y viviré en Whitefish, Montana durante los veranos y viviré en Page, Arizona durante los inviernos. En el verano, no trabajaré pero andaré por las montañas y pintaré cada día. Durante los inviernos, los otoños y las primaveras, viviré en Page, Arizona y allí seré buena maestra de español y también seré entrenadora de gimnasia y futbol.

Estaré casada con un hombre simpático y muy inteligente que trabajará como autor y tendré una hija quien se llamará Callaway. También, tendré dos perros y un gato. Mi familia y yo tendremos tres casas, una en Page, Arizona, una en Whitefish Montana y otra en Destin, Florida. Cada primavera toda la familia, mi hija, mi esposo, mi hermano y mis padres y yo iremos a la playa para vacaciones muy divertidas.

En 20 años, estaré contenta pero muy ocupada con mi familia, mi carrera y mis pasatiempos.

Rubric

_____	Used the future tense correctly 10 times	30 pts
_____	Answered all the questions	14 pts
_____	Used the format of an article	7 pts
_____	Creativity	6 pts
_____	Subject/Verb agreement	<u>10 pts</u>
_____	Total	Total possible 65 pts

Sample 5

Barbara Knox
Winter 1996

Composition #2
Travel Brochure

Rough Draft Due: _____
Final Draft Due: _____

Assignment: For this composition you will be creating a travel brochure for the vacation spot or resort of your choice. Imagine that you are the owner of this resort area/hotel/vacation spot, and you really want to convince someone to go to your particular place. So, you create a brochure that will persuade this possible vacationer that this place offers them everything they could ever desire!!! In order for you to persuade this client, your brochure needs to look **appealing** and be **creative**. In the brochure you need to include the following items:

1. An introduction with an overall description and summary of this vacation spot
2. At least four main categories which you thoroughly develop with many **descriptive adjectives**. For example, you could explain the food, rooms, activities, costs etc. Each of these categories should be developed in **at least** four to five sentences.
3. A recommendation made by someone influential should be included in the brochure, to help persuade your client to go there.
4. A reference of how this client can make reservations or find out specific information about this resort area.
5. The use of the subjunctive **at least six times** in the brochure.
6. The use of the ud. command **at least eight times** in the brochure.

You should choose a resort area which you yourself find appealing so that it will be easy to convince others to come to your vacation spot. Be sure to first write a rough draft in order that you might make corrections for **grammatical errors**. The brochure **does need to be typed** in order for it to look professional! Good luck and have fun!

Rubric:**TRAVEL BROCHURE**

_____ 1.	Is your brochure persuasive – does it make the reader want to visit your vacation spot?	12 pts
	---looks nice? ---good descriptions? ---creative? ---realistic?	
_____ 2.	Do you thoroughly explain at least four different aspects/categories about the resort area? (4-5 sentences per each)	16 pts
_____ 3.	Did you include an introduction which highlights all of the major advantages of this resort/vacation spot?	6 pts
_____ 4.	Did you include a reference of how to make reservations?	4 pts
_____ 5.	Did you include a recommendation made by someone?	4 pts
_____ 6.	Did you use many descriptive adjectives ?	10 pts
_____ 7.	Did you use the ud. Command at least eight times correctly?	16 pts
_____ 8.	Did you use correct verb tenses, spelling, usage of words?	10 pts
_____ 9.	Did you use correct verb tenses, spelling, usage of words?	10 pts
_____ 10.	Did you use correct agreement? Noun/adjective and subject/verb?	<u>10 pts</u>
_____ Total	Total possible	100 pts

SAMPLE #6

Laura Ann Lutenbacher

Winter 1996

You have just begun studying French, and you have become very interested in learning to speak the language. You are telling your parents that you are interested in going to visit France when they remind you that your great aunt (your grandmother's sister) lives in France.

Write this distant relative a letter telling her how you are related to her. Also, tell her a little bit about yourself. You must include your age, where you are from, at least two facts about yourself using *aimer* – verb. Your letter must be written completely in French and it must have at least five sentences.

Model

le 29 janvier 1996

Bonjour Madame Lutenbacher,

Je voudrais visiter la France. Vous êtes le sœur de ma grandmœur de ma grandmère et j'étudie le français. Je viens d'Alabama. J'ai vingt deux ans. J'aime nager à la piscine et j'aime jouer au tennis. Dites-moi, s'il vous plaît, si je puis vous visiter. Merci!

Laura Ann

Rubric

_____ Did the student correctly use the date?	2 pts
_____ Did the student correctly define the relationship?	2 pts
_____ Did the student use the correct construction to tell his/her age?	2 pts
_____ Did the student correctly tell his/her age?	1 pt
_____ Did the student use the correct construction for where he/she is from?	3 pts
_____ Did the student use the correct construction for what he/she likes to do?	5 pts
_____ Did the student use five sentences in the letter?	5 pts
_____ Total	Total Possible 20 pts

SAMPLE #7

Scott Lubic 1998

You have just bought a new house, and are in the process of furnishing it, with eight things from a furniture store sale. The store includes delivery for no extra charge, so you need to write a short letter on the order form for the delivery service. You need to tell them where you want the order delivered, the time and day that you are available to meet them, and where to place each object in your house, giving specific places within the rooms in case you are not there.

Modèle:

Messieurs,

J'habite à 321 rue Dorwart. Je travaille de 05h00 à 14h00, mais je ne travaille pas le 5 juin, mardi prochain. S'il vous plait, mettez la table ronde dans la cuisine, avec les chaises autour de la table. Je voudrais le lit dans la grande chambre sur le premier étage, sous la fenêtre...

Merci, M. Lubic

****Be sure to include all points from the rubric.**

RUBRIC

_____ Is the address included?	1 pt.
_____ Are a time and day given to meet the movers?	2 pts.
_____ Are eight times included?	4 pts.
_____ Are items placed in the correct rooms?	4 pts.
_____ Subject-verb agreement?	4 pts.
_____ Gender agreement?	4 pts.
_____ Correct verb usage?	4 pts.
_____ Additional details and creativity	2 pts.
_____ Total	25 pts.

SAMPLE #8

You are going to be an exchange student in Paris, France for your next year of high school. It is the day you are leaving the United States to meet your French family, the Garniers, and you are getting ready to leave your house to go to the airport.

Panic strikes. Oh no, you forgot to tell them what you look like and what you will be wearing so they can find you in the airport. Never fear, e-mail is here! Luckily you have their e-mail address so you can send them a quick message before you leave on how to identify you! Please write below the message you are going to send (use at least six descriptive sentences). (By the way, they don't speak any English so it **MUST** be in French or they won't be able to find you!)

Modèle:

Bonjour! Je m'appelle Katie Wimberly. J'ai les cheveux courts, châtons, et bouclés, et j'ai les yeux verts. Je suis jeune, belle, très grande, et mince. Je porte un pantalon noir, un chemisier blanc et noir, et un blouson rouge. En plus, je porte un chapeau rouge. À bientôt!

SAMPLE #8

You are going to be an exchange student in Guadalajara, Mexico for your next year of high school. It is the day you are leaving the United States to meet your Mexican family, the Garcias, and you are getting ready to leave your house to go to the airport.

Panic strikes. Oh no, you forgot to tell them what you look like and what you will be wearing so they can find you in the airport. Never fear, e-mail is here! Luckily you have their e-mail address so you can send them a quick message before you leave on how to identify you! Please write below the message you are going to send (use at least six descriptive sentences). (By the way, they don't speak any English so it MUST be in Spanish or they won't be able to find you!)

Modelo:

Buenos días! Me llamo Melyn Roberson. Tengo pelo corto, castaño y rizado y tengo ojos verdes. Soy joven, guapa, mut alta y delgada. Llevo pantalones negros, una camisa blanca y negra y una chaqueta roja. También llevo un sombrero rojo. Hasta pronto.