Dear Reader,

I have written many pieces of writing and all of them have been inspired by my personal experiences, my imagination, or my personal opinion. When I write, I mostly use my personal experiences because that way I can get a copious amount of information into the writing. Once I start writing and have my base idea down I then the rest of the paper is easy. I especially like how I have a large vocabulary in my writing. Since the beginning of the year, I have expanded my vocabulary with the help of the SAT words. In my writing I try not to be verbose; I was in the beginning of the year but I have gotten much better. When writing, writer’s block gave me the most difficulty. It takes me a long time to get started on a paper because I can never know what to start with or I can never figure out what I want to say. Also, all of the grammar technicalities have made it difficult to write. I have caught myself not using the correct words due to the grammar technicalities such as the apostrophes and the plurals/singulars.

This year, I have learned a lot about myself as a writer. Some people can write many pages just on one topic because they add a lot of details and different structured sentences. I have learned that when I am given a topic, I can’t write pages just on that. I summarize all of my thoughts in maybe one page and that expresses all of my feelings towards that topic. I also don’t go in depth in my writing. For the most part, I skim the surface of many ideas and don’t really elaborate. I’ve learned that in creative writing, I start writing a very detailed story that has many different conflicts and characters. About half way through the story, I get bored and tend to start summarizing and go into fewer details. I don’t have a lot of discipline for that; if I get bored with a story I end it quickly and stop. I also don’t enjoy writing research papers. When I right research papers, I plan a lot to write about and plan to spend a lot of time on each subject to make an excellent paper. What usually happens after that is I procrastinate and I end up only writing about a quarter of those ideas. The paper is good in the end but not nearly as good as it could’ve been.

My personal goals at the beginning of the year were to grow up, have a good impression on you, and expand my vocabulary. I succeeded in expanding my vocabulary and becoming more mature. I think I have made a good impression on you but I won’t know because that’s your opinion. I now know many different SAT words and can use them with ease. I have also matured a lot this year. Last year I didn’t have much homework and so I would mess around in class but always get my work done. This year I have had a lot of homework every night and have had to continue to be diligent in my studies up until the very last day of school. This year has helped me with time management; now I know when to do what homework based on what day it’s due as well as knowing when to start and stop my homework. This year has also taught me discipline. Many times this year I have wanted to give up and stop doing homework just because I was tired, but knowing that if I didn’t do it I would get a zero and that could destroy my grades kept me going. My academic goals were to pass all of my classes, make principles list, and get enough sleep. I have succeeded in passing all of my classes although I have never made principles list. I have made honor roll every time though which is still outstanding. Sleeping has been an issue this year but I got enough to survive the next day; not necessarily what I need.

When I write, I consistently try to make longer and more complex sentences throughout the whole paper. I usually have a varied vocabulary and don’t repeat the same words more than three times. Some weaknesses I have seen in my writing include being verbose, and not keeping the reader’s attention. My sentences may be varied but are very bland and boring. In my opinion, other writers use a lot of imagery and sensory details to make their stories fun and vivid. I would like to be able to do that in my stories and to do that I need to slow down and think about what I’m going to write as well as think about different ways I can express certain feelings. Other writers also use many paragraphs to describe one smell or one thing. As a reader, I like the imagery and the way I can feel like I can taste it, but sometimes it’s too much. I wouldn’t want to do this in my writing because I’d rather get straight to the point and not waste paragraphs just on one topic. Something about these writing assignments that you don’t know is that they have helped me understand what kind of writing I enjoy writing.