Explanatory Assessment Rubric

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| Name: | Unsung Heroes | Date: |  |

Use the following checklist to evaluate your work or that of a classmate for the traits of effective writing.

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| 3 | **Stimulating IDEAS** |
|  | ***The essay . . .***   * contains an effective thesis statement. * contains specific facts, examples, or quotations to support the thesis. * interests and informs readers. |
| 3 | **Logical ORGANIZATION** |
|  | ***The essay . . .***   * includes a clear beginning, a strong middle, and an appropriate ending. * presents ideas in an organized manner. * uses transitions to link sentences and paragraphs. |
| 4 | **Engaging VOICE** |
|  | ***The essay . . .***   * speaks clearly and knowledgeably. * shows that the writer is truly interested in the topic. |
| 3 | **Original WORD CHOICE** |
|  | ***The essay . . .***   * explains or defines any unfamiliar terms. * contains specific nouns and active verbs. |
| 2 | **Effective SENTENCE STYLE** |
|  | ***The essay . . .***   * flows smoothly from one idea to the next. * shows a variety of sentence lengths and structures. |
| 3 | **Correct, Accurate COPY** |
|  | ***The essay . . .***   * observes the basic rules of writing. * follows the format required by the teacher, or follows some other effective design. |

**Comments:**

Your introduction is engaging, and your focus statement does go beyond the dictionary definition by identifying three qualities that people admire in heroes. Each paragraph focuses on a different aspect of the definition, but your examples are too general and repetitive. Perhaps you could have explored the idea of unsung heroes that your title suggests. Next time, you should check more carefully for spelling and grammar errors.