Figure 6: Primary Trait Evaluation Guide for Explanatory Text

Language Register

1. Writer uses a register commonly reserved for oral communication.
2. Writer uses a combination of oral and written registers.
3. Writer uses a register appropriate for written communication.

**Writer’s stance with regard to cultural aspects of the topic:**

1. Writer seems unaware that German students might be different from American students.
2. Writer chooses to talk about aspects that suggest some awareness of cultural difference.
3. Writer seems very aware of aspects of American culture that may make American students different from German students.

**Use of the present tense:**

1. Three to five different verbs used, subject/verb agreement errors, spelling errors.
2. Five to seven different verbs used, occasional subject/verb errors, few spelling errors.
3. Seven to ten different verbs used, no subject/verb errors, no spelling errors.

**Use of vocabulary:**

1. Nouns frequently misspelled, articles often incorrect, little use of adjectives, consistent errors in noun/adjective agreement.
2. Some errors in spelling, occasional incorrect articles, acceptable number of adjectives used to create a visual image, some noun/adjective agreement errors.
3. Correct use of nouns to describe male and female students, no errors in use of articles, variety of adjectives creates vivid image for reader, no noun/adjective agreement errors.

**FINAL PRIMARY TRAIT SCORING GUIDE**

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<thead>
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<th>Inadequate</th>
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<th>Highly Competent</th>
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