Consider the texts below, where the students are responding to the essay prompt, *Life in Bloomington*

1. What is the learner doing well? What are mistakes that you note? Which of these mistakes do/don’t impede understanding the meaning? Which things are “odd” but maybe not a mistake?

2. What are English constructions that the learner may be overusing? underusing?

3. If you had to assign the learner an English ability score of 1-7, based on this essay, what would you give? What is your rationale?

4. What kind of (written) linguistic properties does the student need help with?

*Essay #1*

I came in America, in small American city Bloomington first time two monthes ago. I was surprising by American life and people. Also, Indiana University surprised me very much. So, let me tell you about my experience in the Bloomington.

As I mentioned above, I came first time in Bloomington two monthes ago with my children to my husband; he is studying in Indiana University. I like Bloomington because as a mother of two children I want to say that it is best place for children to live. Bloomington very quiet and safe city. Also people are very frienly and kind. I am not scary to have relationship with American people here. I am very happy to live here with my family. I can go to the swiming pool, play ground, library, museum, shopping with my children and spend my time by learning very good things. I was surprising by rules that everthing is working by rules and nobody breaks rules here. I mean in road or in university, anywhere...I like this sytem, I can live quietly.

Very big surprise for me, it was Indiana University because I didn’t see before huge university in the small town like Bloomington. It is interesting for me to see many notionolities from another countries. Also, I was surprised by library that you can learn there, search and even live there. I want to study in Indiana University because he has very good schools. I think Bloomington is for studying because here is no so many entertainments, no traffics and everthing here is just for leaning new good things. I met here very interesting professors and teachers.

For all these reasons, I like Bloomington, I want to live here and I wish to study here in Indiana University to learn and of course to improve my English language. I am happy that I can show to my children this nice country and Bloomington city.

*Essay #2*

Bloomington is one of cities in Indiana State. Anybody comes to Bloomington will find a nice life. The life in Bloomington is piece of cack. Also, the people in it very friendly. A visitor will spend a good time in Bloomington. The American people in Bloomington are friendly, honst, and like to help people.

People in Bloomington are very friendly. In fact, people like to build a good relationship with another people. Also, always they are smile. For example, when anyone walks in strret, he meets smile people. Even though people work very heart in their working, they are smile whe they meet anybody.

On the other hand, people in Bloomington is honst. In fact, when a visitor comes to Bloomington, he will honst people. Also, he will has peace life in Bloomington. Actually, people educate their children a good education for they get honst children.

People like healping in Bloomington. When you get a problem, you do not worry because you will get people helping. For example, I had a problem a bout chooses my car but my friend from Amircan help me a bout that.

In the end, people in Bloomington are friendly, honst, and lik to helping. I hope a good life for people in Bloomington and people in the world. The life in Bloomington is piece of cack.
Essay #3

To live in a different place is always a good experience. You can meet new people and learn a lot about new cultures. Habits are different in every place of the world and open our mind to new experiences is a very good choice. Obviously, American life is very different from the life in COUNTRY. Bloomington surprised me a lot because here people are friendly, the places are beautiful and the University makes this city very interesting.

The first day, that I arrived to Bloomington I realized that here the people are very different from COUNTRY. They are always waiting for you questions and they always have an advice for you. Here everybody is friendly and it seems that they enjoy helping you. In my country all is very different. In COUNTRY, everybody is in a hurry and they don’t matter if you need something. They just move from one place to another and they don’t see around them.

The second thing that I find very interesting in Bloomington is the city itself. The houses, the cars, the trees, all is beautiful. Everything is prepared to be use and all is in the place that it must be. Then again, comparing with my country, thing are very different. In COUNTRY, when you need to use something, most of the times you will it out of order. Things are always broken and you have to take care that everything is working in the correct way.

The last thing that I admire of Bloomington is the campus. The University here is very important and all is prepared for students. The campus is very very big and I never imagined a place like this. The squirrels is going from one place to another and the big old buildings makes me feel like I am dreaming. The activities that students can find here are very important for the social life, because most of the times people arrived here alond and to meet new people is one of the most important things.

In conclusion, I really enjoyed this city. I enjoyed every tree, every animal and every person that I saw in Bloomington. I’m very happy because this is an unforgettable experience and not all the people have the opportunity to come here and study English in such a beautiful place. Staying here can teach you a lot about the world and about how to share new feelings with people very different from you.

Essay #4

Have you live in America? I came Bloomington 5 months ago. After I saw many things and I felt many things in Bloomington, I learned about America life and American people.

First, I learned about greeting culture. I saw surprised when I came here because someone said to me ”Hello, how are you?” My country people greet very well, but my country people don’t greet non-know person. I confused this for 2 months, but 2 months later, I thought that this culture is good because it can improve good relationship in our society. I think that my country needs this culture.

Second, I learn tip culture. One day I went to the China house with my family. We had a good time. I was happy because my hometown didn’t have this. After we ate, we looked tip. I don’t pay tip, so it was very surprise and I thought it’s good culture.

I have lived for 5 months. It’s very short time. I learned a lot of things about American life and America people in short time. I will stay in here. I want to learn about American life because I think it gives me affect and will help my life.