

*One Paycheck Away*  
*Final Assessment Rubric*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

| Criteria  | Possible Points                         | Points Earned |
|---|---|---------------|
| The author wrote creatively about the topic of homelessness.  | 0.....20<br>Not at all ..... Completely | 15            |
| The author's writing displays empathy for homeless individuals and/or breaks stereotypes of homelessness. | 0.....50<br>Not at all ..... Completely | 50            |
| The author's writing contains few mechanical errors, such as spelling, capitalization or punctuation.     | 0.....10<br>Not at all ..... Completely | 8             |
| The author's writing avoids the use of run-on sentences or sentence fragments.                            | 0.....10<br>Not at all ..... Completely | 8             |
| The author's writing is vivid, descriptive and imaginative.   | 0.....10<br>Not at all ..... Completely | 5             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>100</b>                              | 86 / B+       |

*Good Work*

## Homeless

When I was growing up, I did not have a lot of food or clothes, because my dad did not make a lot of money. I had food and clothes, but not a lot of food or expensive clothes. When my dad did make enough money, we went out to eat. I had enough food to survive on, but that was not very much. I had to try to survive off of commodities. Commodities were not the food you think it was it was. The commodities were spoiled milk, cheese molded bread outdated oatmeal.

When my dad found a new job, I had a little bit more food, but not enough to survive the whole month. We had people helping provide food, so my family would not starve. If I starved, then there would be problems. My family did not want to have problems with food but we did. When I was 14, I helped make money for the family so we would have money for food. The way I helped make money for the family is I helped go mow people's yards and that is how I made most of my

money. Another way I made money was I had a guy in Ohio, he told me he would pay me \$200 if I gave him 8 box turtles and I gave him what he asked for and I got money. I missed a lot of school, because we needed money for food. Otherwise, we would be hungry for the whole month.

I raised money, but the money still did not cover the cost of the food and clothing. The food and clothing for the family cost around \$600-\$1,000 dollars. Then we decided to have a yard sale and that still didn't cover the cost for food for the whole month. I found people that might help us out. I asked the people and they said they were kind of homeless, too. Eventually I was not able to help my family out because I wasn't able to raise any more money. This is when the state took me from my family, and put me in a foster home.

I was taken from my home and the Department of Health and Human Resources people said that I couldn't live with any of my family members. I did some bad things and was taken to juvie. I had decided since I was homeless, I didn't have anything to lose. That is why I did what I did to get locked up.

I was in foster care but then a cop came to the house and I told him that he was not in his jurisdiction. The reason why I told him that is because he tried taking me from the foster home. The reason why I got taken from the foster home is because I was smoking in the house and the foster mom got mad and she told me she was going to call my case worker, and I had told her to call them I didn't care. Now since I can't find a place to live, I am going to be staying in juvie until I turn 18.