**Sample Instructor Comments on Rough Draft**

**Rationale:** In the comments the instructor provided on this rough draft, the instructor took on the role of responder as assistant, “working with writers to improve the text and make it as effective as possible in relation to its purpose by helping with language, genre, and content” (Tribble (1996), qtd. in Hyland 2003, p. 208). The instructor uses key words/concepts from the assignment and rubric (“descriptive language,” “evaluation,” “physical and atmospheric elements,” “audience,” etc.) to draw attention to them and emphasize them. The instructor includes “a blend of encouragement and constructive criticism” (Hedgcock and Ferris 2013, p. 240) in the comments, as well. The instructor follows Mafoodh’s (2017) advice to focus feedback on early drafts on organization and content “so as to assist students [to] produce good essays with good and acceptable content” and saves “[c]omments on grammar and other surface changes... until further drafts” (pp. 69-70).

Rough Draft Restaurant Review

The [establishment] has a old diner feel to it. The color scheme includes a retro-like blue and electric pink. Checkered patterns are added to the sign of the restaurant to cut the severity of the bright blue and pink. Walking up to the restaurant, you feel the sense of being welcome by the cottage-like exterior of the building that sits conveniently on the corner just before approaching X College. It is not obnoxious in nature and has a down to earth feel. Walking into the restaurant, we felt welcomed by the owner and the waitress. Funky, 60s era art hangs on the wall on top of the already brightly colored pink and blue walls. Subtle, homey touches tie the room together. These accents include a hanging plants, antique chairs and tables, and a blackboard with all of the restaurant items written in pink and yellow chalk.

Food wise, the [establishment] has diner food including burgers, fries, and more than 30 milkshake flavors. The pumpkin milkshake tastes like a pumpkin pie in a cup. The tropical burger was slightly overcooked, but the flavors were great. The bacon and the pine-apple created a perfect combination of sweet and savory. The fries reminded me of the fries my mom makes back home. Huge, steak fries that are perfectly baked. They pair perfectly with malt vinegar.

Atmosphere wise, it is really laid back and is a perfect place to hangout with friends in the afternoon or even get a late night burger.

You’ve got the right idea here. Your description of the milkshake tasting “like pumpkin pie in a cup” is an effective use of descriptive language. You provide some concrete details about the “feel” of the restaurant and the color scheme. Consider how you might elaborate on the quality of the physical and atmospheric elements by including more detailed comments on the location, menu selection, cleanliness, etc. that are likely to matter to your primary audience of visitors to X College. How might you draw readers in at the beginning of the review/create a more engaging opening? What main idea/theme might you use to help the evaluation hang together/maintain coherence? Consider how you might use shorter paragraphs with more breaks (might be worthwhile to go back and look at the NYT examples in the course management system). Did you take any pictures?