

# SAMPLE YEAR 3 RESPONSES

Topic: "I had never before seen such an amazing sight..."

## Sample 1 (BELOW AVERAGE RESPONSE)

Little understanding of punctuation

(It) just amazing to see all the amals at the zoo I like the girat it got such a long nek and spots how it (et) the grass I (don) now also buterflys all colors (but my favori) ammal (in the grilla) they sit there (lookin) at you and cudle there baby they look just like (is we) went to the zoo last (yer) with our class and it was (real) amazing.

(72 words)

Constant spelling errors

- Simplistic content ...
- Extremely limited expression
- Little more than crude labelling of 'sights' (giraffe, butterflies, gorilla)

**Sample 2**  
**(MIDDLE RANGE RESPONSE)**

Tense changes	<p>We <u>were</u> flying thru space and all of a sudden we hit an <u>astroid</u> and then crash bang <u>we land</u> on a wierd planet. There is a sign saying WELCOME TO MARS We <u>climed</u> out of our space ship and walk round. <u>There was</u> this street full of wierd <u>veercles</u> like skate <u>bords</u> and crazy looking people with feelers on there heads and big eyes and a robot called Robbie.</p> <p>My name is Shane I was <u>scarred</u> I tell you. I call to my friend Tony and we get our stun guns and we set off to see what is like like on Mars and that.</p> <p>So we set off but all of a sudden there is an explosion <u>what</u> is going on Robbie comes up to us and says DO NOT FEAR EARTHLINGS IT IS THE MARS PILOTS <u>Wow we said</u> and Robbie says CATCH THEM AND YOU GET A ZILLON SPACEBUCK You game Sure says <u>Tony</u> So we head off to find them. So we <u>look</u> everywhere. But no sign of the pirots.</p> <p>We end up at a hotel called the <u>mirage palace</u> In it is a monster called Jabba the hut. We grab our stun guns and blast him to <u>peaces</u> DIE JABBA yells Tony.</p> <p>So we get back to the city and Robbie gives us the reward. And he <u>reper</u>s our spaceship and we fly off for another <u>aventure</u>. TO BE CONTINUED</p> <p>(236 words)</p>	Spelling errors - though writing largely competent.	
Tense changes			
Simple, hackneyed narrative			No grasp of quotation marks

- Content full of clichés and very derivative – but shows a genuine attempt to shape narrative

**Sample 3**  
**(ABOVE AVERAGE RESPONSE)**

Spelling and punctuation errors are minimal

*The most amazing place I have ever visited has to be the Waitomo Caves in New Zealand. They are located half way down the north island. When my family and I arrived there, we noticed we were in the middle of a deep valley. After we paid to get in, we were immediatly taken underground by a friendly guide called John.*

Complex phrasing and sophisticated use of words

Skilled use of paragraphs

*We couldn't believe what we saw next! Deep under the hills, we climed through caves that were formed when dinosaurs still roamed the earth. Some were small but one was so large it is nicknamed The Cathedral. John told us that they have even held church services there. In every cave, we saw amazing limestone structures called stalagmites and stalagtites rising up from the floor or hanging from the roof.*

Skilled use of description

Deft integration of background information

*The best part of the underground adventure was saved for last! We all stepped into a small boat and drifted through the caves on an underground river. Then John turned off all the lights and above our heads we could see thousands of glowworms, twinkling like stars, attached to the cave walls. What an amazing sight! This cave was discovered by a Maori chief when he and a friend floated in on a raft one day. The sight took their breath away! After that, it was opened to the public so everybody could see this beautiful cave.*

Evocative use of words and metaphor

*I thought New Zealand was a beautiful country. I saw snow covered mountains, hot mud pools and sandy beaches. I can see why The Lord of the Rings was filmed there! But my favourite part of all has to be the beautiful glowworm cave at Waitomo.*

Structured piece, including stylish conclusion

(302 words)

- Highly successful recount based on personal experience ... demonstrates superior language skills and excellent control