

# SAMPLE YEAR 5 RESPONSES

## Topic: "What a surprise..."

### Sample 1

(BELOW AVERAGE RESPONSE)

#### *Fred and his frens*

One there was a boy named fred he had a cat name of fluffee and a dog call sam they his frens that he took evywere with him becos he love them so much. One day freds cat get run over by a car in the road wat a suprise Fred dig a hol and put him in. He cry and cry i miss him he sed but cat come back as gost this make him hapy but then a space ship come by and fred eaten by ailons his dog sam too. big suprise So in the end fred is ded so sam is and fluffee also then he wake up it was all a dreem after all sam and fluffee alive after all and no wories The end.

(134 words)

Constant spelling errors

Erratic tense changes

Little understanding of punctuation

Incomplete sentences

No understanding of paragraphing

- Primitive narrative (surprise - cat run over, aliens appear, etc)
- Little or no logic to the story
- Simplistic (dream) ending

**Sample 2**  
**(Middle Range Response)**

**A bad boy**

Once upon a time there was a boy called Jim. He was real bad. He never done what his Mum said, and always in touble

One day his mum told him to look after his little brother Tom. Jim did not like Tom, he was a pain in the but. So he got Tom a lolly, and thinks now he can sneek away and have fun with my friends

So he left Tom under a tree with a lolly and went off to look for his friends but he could not find them cos they had snuke off too. He went to find them and there they were at Lock Ness where the monster lived. The monster eats people and then disapers into the lake.

So Jim got to the lake and there are no friends left cos the monster has eaten them.

○ Jim, you not aloud to go down there, what about the monster? And where is Tom? ○ Said mum.

○ He eaten by the monster, ○ said Jim.

Jim you a bad boy said mum and she slapt him so hard he fell in the lake too and the monster go BURP.

Moral: Do what you mum say or you get a real nasty surprise one of these days.

(215 words)

Competent  
paragraphing

Basic  
ability  
in written  
expression -  
though quite  
a few errors  
in spelling  
and syntax

No grasp of  
quoutation marks

- Narrative shaped - if simplistic (little internal logic)
- Relevant to topic

**Sample 3**  
*(Above Average Response)*

**Happy birthday**

Strong beginning

*"Jodie, what would you like for your birthday?" said Mum. She bent over and kissed me. We were sitting at the kitchen table after dinner. I was finishing off my homework.*

Written expression free of errors - high level of control

Excellent use of dialogue

*"Gosh, I don't know. I've got everything."*

*"Something special?" she added. "Grandma wants to pay this time. She was so pleased that you came and stayed with her when she was ill and Dad and I were away. Any ideas?"*

*"I know you don't approve, but I like McDonald's..." I suggested. "But that's probably not exciting enough. Or maybe a party with a real clown... Or perhaps some new clothes..." I was running out of ideas. "And anyway, I don't mind staying with Gran. She's lots of fun."*

Skilled development of narrative - complications to raise suspense

*I went to bed that night, imagining all sorts of lovely things. My birthday was a month away. The trouble was, it was right in the middle of the holidays. Everyone might be away.*

*Sure enough, no one seemed to be able to come. I asked Amy. "Sorry, kiddo - I'm off at the beach. But I'll send a card." I asked Tran. "Oh Jodie, I wish I could - but it's the day of my cousin's wedding." I asked Sarah. "It's my Dad's only time off - and we booked a house."*

*Some birthday. The last day of term, I waved everyone goodbye. Then I went home. And I cried.*

*"Cheer up," I said to myself on the big day. Mum had brought me breakfast in bed. And some presents, wrapped up in marvellous red paper. There was a DVD. And two Pony Club books. And a beautiful, huge Teddy Bear - to add to my collection.*

Dramatic elements

Apt use of description

*"Now get dressed, young lady," she said. "We're going shopping."*

*We went to the local mall, and got me a new winter outfit – boots, and a fur lined jacket, and a fabulous cap. I admired myself in the shop windows as we headed for home.*

Real life setting  
skilfully  
integrated

*“I know you’re disappointed, pet,” she said. She had noticed that I was silent again. “But you’ll see them again soon. And I’m sure they won’t forget your birthday.”*

Psychological  
dimensions  
evoked

*I just looked out the window at the rain.*

*“What about a hot chocolate?” she said. “Look, we’re passing McDonald’s. Will that do?”*

*I nodded. We turned in and parked.*

*“And a muffin?” I was suddenly starving.*

*“Sure thing.”*

*We were lined up, when Mum said, “Oh look, Jodie. Someone’s having a party in the kids’ room. Want to have a look?”*

Story propelled  
by dialogue -  
believable and  
evocative of  
character

*“Oh Mum...”*

*“Check it out. I’ll bring the drinks...”*

*I pushed open the door to the kids’ room.*

Topic introduced  
at key moment

*“SURPRISE!!!!”*

*“OHMYGOSH!!!”*

*It was Amy, and Sarah, and Tran – and all my friends. They were laughing like crazy. Behind them was a clown with a ridiculous red nose and a yellow flower on his hat. He came forward and said,*

Clever  
resolution of  
narrative issues

*“Happy birthday, Jodie!”*

(472 words)