

SAMPLE YEAR 3 RESPONSES

Topic: “What an amazing sight...”

Sample 1 (BELOW AVERAGE RESPONSE)

Constant
spelling
errors

There was onse a mermaid she
lived in the oshun. She allways
likt to swim evrywhere but one
day when she was swimming
rely deep she sor a amazing
sight it was a treshur chest, so
she askt her trend the dolfen
to help her cary it bak to her
cave an wen she lookt inside
she sor lost of gold!!! “How
amazing she sed I will take
this gold to the shop and get
sum yumy food so I can hav a
big party for all my trends!!!

Lack of
capitalisation

No
punctuation

(89 words)

- ▷ Simplistic content
- ▷ Basic sentences with little use of elaboration
- ▷ Essential elements of narrative are missing (eg complication and resolution)
- ▷ Absence of paragraphing
- ▷ Constant spelling errors for high-frequency words (eg back, some, was)
- ▷ Limited understanding of punctuation
- ▷ Overuse of exclamation marks

Topic: "What an amazing sight..."

Sample 2 (MIDDLE RANGE RESPONSE)

Constant spelling errors

We were flying thru space and all of a sudden we hit an asteroid and then crash bang we land on a wierd planet. There is a sign saying WELCOME TO MARS We climed out of our space ship and walk around. There was this street full of wierd veercles like skate bords and crazy looking people with feelers on there heads and big eyes and a robot called Robbie.

Constant change of tense

My name is Shane I was scarred 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.

Limited grasp of punctuation

So we set off but all of a sudden there is an explosion what is going on Robbie comes up to us and says DO NO FEAR EARTHLINGS IT IS THE MARS PIROTS Wow we said and Robbie says CATCH THEM AND YOU GET A ZILLION SPACEBUCKS You game Sure says Tony So we head off to find them. So we look everywhere. But no sign of the pirots.

No grasp of quote marks

Derivative storyline

We end up at a hotel called the mirage palis In it is a monster called Jaba the hut. We grab our stun guns and blast him to peaces. DIE JABA yells Tony.

So we get back to the city and Robbie gives us the reward. And he repers our spaceship and we fly off for another aventure. TO BE CONTINUED

(236 words)

- ▷ Content full of clichés and very derivative
- ▷ No grasp of quotation marks, and weak on full stops
- ▷ However, a genuine attempt to shape narrative
- ▷ The story has a beginning, middle, complications and resolution

Topic: "What an amazing sight..."

Sample 3 (HIGH RANGE RESPONSE)

One night I was walking in the bush near my home looking for my dog Spot. My Mum had said, "I know he's somewhere out there. Can you find him?"

"Spot! Spot!" I called.

I went deeper into the bush. All of a sudden, I heard Spot wimpering. I picked him up in my arms.

"Why are you crying?"

Then I saw why. A giant light was coming down from the sky. It was round and rose coloured. It twinkled.

As it came down, I saw that it was going to land near me.

"Spot," I said. "Do you know what I think it is?"

Spot squermed. He knew it was something truly amazing.

The bright light got bigger and bigger. Now it was humming. It landed in front of me.

Lets hide," I said. "I might be dangerous."

The space ship was still glowing. A door opened. I saw three figures come out. They were tall and thin. They had big friendly eyes.

Mostly
excellent
spelling

Good use of
description

The scene is
brought to life
in words

They were talking. Their voices were soft and like bird song.

“Spot,” I wispered. “They’re aliens!” Spot shivered.

All at once...

“Dearly beloved,” said a soft bird voice in my head, “we come in peace. But no one can know. You are quite safe. But we must stop you telling anyone else about us. When you wake up, you will not remember a thing.”

One night I was walking in the bush near my home looking for my dog Spot. My Mum had said, “I know he’s somewhere out there. Can you find him?”

“Spot! Spot!” I called.

All of a sudden, I heard Spot whimpering. I picked him up in my arms.

“Why are you crying? There’s nothing to be frightened of.”

And together we walked back home.

I had the feeling something amazing had happened. I had just found Spot safe and sound. Or maybe...?

(310 words)

Good use of imagination to create a story complication

Clever use of a story ‘loop’ (back to the start) to create a surprise ending

- ▷ Highly successful narrative based clearly on the prompt
- ▷ Superior language skills - syntax, vocabulary, spelling
- ▷ Ability to structure the story in an original and satisfying way
- ▷ Originality of thought demonstrated in the surprise ending