

SAMPLE YEAR 5 RESPONSES

Topic: "What a surprise..."

Sample 1 (BELOW AVERAGE RESPONSE)

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 evywhere with him becoss he love them so much. One day freds cat get run over by a car in the road wat a suprise Fred dig a hole and put him in. He cry and cry i miss him he sed but cat come back as goss this make him happy but then a space ship come by and fred eten by ailons his dog same too, big suprise. So in the end fred is ded so sam is and fluffee also then he wake up it was all a drem after all same and fluffe alive after all now worries. The end

(134 words)

Constant spelling errors

Erratic tense changes

Weak on capitalisation

Little understanding of punctuation

Incomplete sentences

No grasp of paragraphing

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

Topic: "What a surprise..."

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 and always in trouble. 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 snuk 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 mosnter go BURP.

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

(215 words)

Competent-
paragraphing

Basic ability
in written
expression -
though many
errors in spell-
ing and syntax

Unimaginative
storyline

No grasp of
quote marks

- ▷ Narrative shaped - if simplistic (little internal logic)
- ▷ Relevant to topic
- ▷ No grasp of quotation marks

Topic: “What a surprise...”

Sample 3 (HIGH RANGE RESPONSE)

“Jodie, what would you like for your birthday?” said Mum. We were sitting at the kitchen table after dinner. I was finishing off my homework.

“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.”

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 its 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.

Excellent spelling, few errors

Good use of dialogue

The scene is brought to life in words

“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 computer game. And two Pony Club books. And a beautiful, huge teddy bear - to add to my collection.

“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 windows as we headed for home.

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

We were lined up, when Mum said, “OH look, Jodie, Someone’s having a party. Want to have a look?”

“Oh Mum...”

She pushed open the door to the kid’s room.

“SURPRISE!!!”

“OHMGOSH!!!”

It was Amy, and Sarah, and Train - 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, bowed and said,

“Happy birthday, Jodie!” (404 words)

Good use of plausible details

The scene is brought to life in words

- ▷ Highly successful narrative, based on personal experience
- ▷ Superior language skills - syntax, vocabulary, spelling
- ▷ Great control of psychology and dialogue
- ▷ Clever structure - surprise ending