



ELA/Literacy
Released Item 2015

Grade 4
Conventions

Sample Student Responses
(from all 3 released tasks)

Anchor Set A1-A8

A1

Thanks, Random Things

"Squeak!" I cried as I tried to call attention to myself. *Where is mama seal and papa seal?* I wondered as I looked around, but the stringy thing on my leg was hurting me and if I moved, it would hurt.

I tried to look around again, without hurting myself. I suddenly saw two things with two long arms and two long legs. Their head looked peculiar. And those two things didn't have a tail! I wondered if they were going to help me or if they were going to hurt me even more. Were they going to abduct me?! They looked like aliens!

They were speaking in some type of secret language. Their looks scared me again. Did they know what I was? I tilted my head back to the water in a look-out for my parents but I also looked at them a couple of times just to make sure that they won't abduct me. They spoke more of their secret language. Then they left.

That was a life saver. Now, there is no chance that they will abduct me. I wondered. Then I went back to looking for mama seal and papa seal.

Then I heard a couple of bangs. The sounds were vibrating the sand on the ground and they made me turn my head swiftly to the other side which hurt a lot! Oh! No!

I was scared because this time they had two larger things that looked exactly alike them. Suddenly, one of the large things took the stringy thing off of me. "Aaah!" It felt much better. Then, another large thing pushed me back in the water but I came back up.

They spoke their secret language again. Then one large thing put some thing on it's eyes.

After a while, they bribed me into coming into this box by putting a sardine in it. They drove me to my parents! I was so happy that I finally got to see my parents. All I could say was "Thanks, *Random Things!*" I wasn't sure if they understood, but it was good enough!

Score Point 3

Annotations

Anchor Paper 1 **Conventions** **Score Point 3**

The response demonstrates full command of the conventions of standard English. The response includes correctly formed simple, compound, and complex sentences, though the use of commas before coordinating conjunctions is inconsistent in some places (*I tilted my head back to the water in a look-out for my parents but I also looked at them a couple of times just to make sure that they won't abduct me.*). There are also a few errors in grammar (*Where is mama seal and papa seal? . . . one large thing put some thing on it's eyes*). However, these errors do not impede understanding, and meaning is clear throughout.

After reading "*Owen & Mzee: The Language of Friendship*" and watching "Flooded by Nature: Animal Partnership" I have concluded that the friendship between Owen & Mzee is different than the relationship between mongooses and hornbills. I think that they are different because Owen & Mzee met each other and then became best friends, but mongooses and hornbills were born being partners and it is part of nature. That is how I think that they are different.

In "*Owen & Mzee: The Language of Friendship*" Owen's (a hippo) home was flooded and lost all of his family-members due to a tsunami. He then went to a wildlife sanctuary where he was put in a boma where other small animals lived, including Mzee: a 130-year old tortoise. The next morning Owen and Mzee were found snuggled up against each other. So after reading this I concluded that Owen and Mzee formed a friendship on their own, they were not born as companions.

The video "Flooded by Nature: Animal Partnership" tells you about the partnership of mongooses and hornbills. It tells about the partnership of mongooses and hornbills and how mongooses find food while hornbills keep an eye out for predators. After watching this video I have concluded that mongooses were born being partners and didn't form their companionship.

Therefore, the friendship between Owen & Mzee is different than the relationship between mongooses and hornbills because Owen and Mzee met then became friends and mongooses and hornbills were born as companions!

Annotations

Anchor Paper 2

Conventions

Score Point 3

The response demonstrates full command of the conventions of standard English, including the correct use of quotation marks and parentheses. A variety of sentences are used including the successful execution of a complex sentence. (*Therefore, the friendship between Owen & Mzee is different than the relationship between mongooses and hornbills because Owen and Mzee met then became friends and mongooses and hornbills were born companions!*) Minor errors in spelling and grammar do not impede meaning.

I'M LOST!

I was lost in the sea and trapped with a net. But why did my family forgot that im in shore! Why cant someone come!

At the moment I saw two chirdren walking to me. Oh no im shy when people are around. Just calm it down girl I know I can survive when people are around.

The girl said "Hello girl. what a beautiful seal you are" I tilted my head at the sound of the girls voice.

The boy said "She looks sad" Man I am sad couse I lost my family. In a moment I saw the boy runing toward his dad and mom. I'm getting shy er!

His dad says "She is cought by a net" so then he took it off of me. His mom pushed me to the water.

The children told me "Good-bye girl" Hey I need my family! So I didn't swim as expected.

So then the boy caught something and said "What are those"

His dad said "SEALS! But lets go away because seals are shy aroud people" So I didn't spare to look at them and my family was there so dived in to say hi and said "THANK YOU" to the family.

THE END

Annotations

Anchor Paper 3

Conventions

Score Point 2

The response demonstrates some command of the conventions of standard English. Errors in spelling (*chirdren, runing, cought*) and usage (*couse, shy er*) are evident in the response, but the meaning is generally clear. Incorrect and inconsistent punctuation occasionally impede understanding, but are appropriate to the length and complexity of the response (*But why did my family forgot that im in shore! Why cant someone come! . . . imcant*).

Dorothy has really good character. She is helpful to people she finds in her adventures, and she is brave to go on dangerous adventures to see dangerous people. When the little man said that if you are not honest, he will destroy you in an instant. That would have scared me but she was completely fearless. Also when Dorothy heard the tin man groan they wanted to help him badly. The tin man was groaning for years since he got rusted. He just needed an oil can to oil his joints so he could move again.

Score Point 2

Annotations

Anchor Paper 4

Conventions

Score Point 2

The response demonstrates some command of conventions with spelling, mechanics and grammar generally appropriate for the grade level. Pronouns are correctly used to designate both Dorothy and the Tin Man. The response includes the correct structure of compound and complex sentences (*He just needed a oil can to oil his joints so he could move again.*). Overall, conventions are generally controlled, and meaning is generally clear.

I was alone and i couldn't find my parents.I was stuck in a net and I couldn't get out.I saw these werd looking things and one of them picked me up.The thing tryed to put me in the shallow water but I came back.I think they named me but i could not understand there language.They looked and they saw two strange bumpes in the dark.They put me in a fish box I didn't like it in there but i had to go in there so they can find my parents.After a wile i got out of the box an in to the sarndine.

Score Point 1

Annotations

Anchor Paper 5 **Conventions** **Score Point 1**

The response demonstrates limited command of the conventions of standard English. Spelling errors (*languege, bumpes, wile*) and inconsistent capitalization (*I was alone and i couldn't*) are evident throughout the response and often impede understanding.

Owne and Mzee is different from mongooses and hornbills.Owen and Mzee are different because they can surive with out each other but they still helped each other and became friends after helping each other. Mongooses and Hornbills need each other to surive.Hornbills help by spotting things Mongooses help by finding food.

Score Point 1

Annotations

Anchor Paper 6

Conventions

Score Point 1

The response demonstrates limited command of the conventions of standard English. Varied errors in grammar (*Owne and Mzee is different*) and punctuation (*Hornbills help by spotting things Mongooses help by finding food.*) often impede understanding. The amount of errors relative to the complexity demonstrates limited command of conventions.

owen and mzee are different by lives in kenya and mongooes and hornbills donot live thaer and mongooes help by tell each of hornbill if thaer was a enme like a black egalls and owen and mzee donot have enmes like hornbilles and mongooes .horbill and mongooes have different by they both share the same food togeter and owen and mzee donot share the same food and mongooes and hornbilles team up like hornbilles gets the food for them and mongooes and mongooes tell them if thaer aer 'enemes so the thats how they team up and owen and mzee donot do that.and mongmes spentts houer to dig up food and owen mzee do not do that ...

Score Point 0

Annotations

Anchor Paper 7

Conventions

Score Point 0

The response demonstrates no command of the conventions of standard English. Frequent and varied errors in spelling (*thaer, togeter, aer*) and grammar (*mongmes spentts houer*) impede understanding throughout this response. The lack of punctuation and capitalization result in uncontrolled sentence structure.

Dorothy think Emerald is pertter the tin Woodman was save de Dorothy.

Score Point 0

Annotations

Anchor Paper 8 **Conventions** **Score Point 0**

The response demonstrates no command of the conventions of standard English due to the frequent and varied errors relative to the length and complexity of the response (*the tin Woodman was save de Dorothy*).