Stage A1

Standard

example 1

The student: Year Level: 7 years old; first term in Language School Background: born in China Language: Mandarin Schooling: age-equivalent schooling in China **The task** – describe picture. The picture shows a family in the living room. The mother is bringing in a plate of biscuits. Other members of the family are sitting around a coffee table. Some are drinking. Two children are sitting on the floor looking at a book on the coffee table.

The text shows that the student:

Student: Is a egg (referring to oval shaped biscuits on tray). Is a water. Brother drink water. Sister in chair • Grandpa in egg. Brother drink water. Sister in book. Daddy in TV.	/	creates original utterances by substituting new words in learned patterns or formulas
Teacher : Tell me about your family		can expand on
Student : Four family. One is my, a mum, a dad and brother. My mum I like colour is yellow. My dad I like is drinking a beer. My brother play a computer. My is draw.		basic personal information when prompted, supported and given adequate time
Teacher : What do you like to do as a family?		
Student: We is eating		
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	 shaped biscuits on tray). Is a water. Brother drink water. Sister in chair : Grandpa in egg. Brother drink water. Sister in book. Daddy in TV. Teacher: Tell me about your family Student: Four family. One is my, a mum, a dad and brother. My mum I like colour is yellow. My dad I like is drinking a beer. My brother play a computer. My is draw. Teacher: What do you like to do as a family? 	 shaped biscuits on tray). Is a water. Brother drink water. Sister in chair : Grandpa in egg. Brother drink water. Sister in book. Daddy in TV. Teacher: Tell me about your family Student: Four family. One is my, a mum, a dad and brother. My mum I like colour is yellow. My dad I like is drinking a beer. My brother play a computer. My is draw. Teacher: What do you like to do as a family?

This is a sample of language from a child at Stage A1 Standard. He communicates in basic English to describe a picture. He uses simple learned formulas and patterns, and creates original utterances e.g. 'My mum I like colour is yellow'. He speaks using short 'telegraphic' structures, e.g. 'sister in book', 'four family', and simple subject/verb/object constructions, e.g. 'My brother play a computer'.