

Stage B3 Standard example 1

The student
Year Level: Year 6
Background: born in New Zealand
Language: Somali
Schooling: began school in New Zealand, started school in Victoria in Year 3

The task
 The students had been learning about the seasons and how they occur. The students had read a range of texts on the topic and had examined models of explanations. The student researched the topic before writing this text independently. The text reproduced here has received some correction by the teacher.

The text shows that the student:

- writes a sequenced and ordered factual text
- uses relative pronouns
- uses appropriate text type
- presents work appropriately
- organises the text in simple, logically ordered paragraphs with a topic sentence
- maintains appropriate tense – simple present
- uses temporal and causal conjunctions to join clauses
- most words spelled correctly, with some invented spelling

The student's work is titled "Integrated Seasons" and is written on lined paper. It includes several paragraphs of text and two diagrams. The first diagram shows Earth tilted on its axis, with the Northern Hemisphere labeled "closer to the sun" and the Southern Hemisphere labeled "farther from the sun". The second diagram shows Earth rotating around the Sun, with labels for "winter" and "summer" on opposite sides of the Earth's orbit. The text explains that the temperature repeats every year due to the Earth's tilt of 23.4 degrees. It also discusses how the Earth's rotation affects the seasons.

This text is an example of a student at B3 Standard. The text explains how seasons occur. The explanation is written in simple, logically ordered paragraphs with topic sentences. The student writes about a complex topic and includes appropriate technical vocabulary, e.g. 'rotating', 'hemisphere', 'tilt', 'axis'. The student uses temporal and causal conjunctions to combine clauses, e.g. 'Whyel (while) the Earth is rotating, the tilt stays the same so after a couple of months...'. The text is written in the present simple. Examples of teacher corrections are 'stays', 'itsalf' changed to 'itself', 'are' inserted between 'we' and 'farther'.