

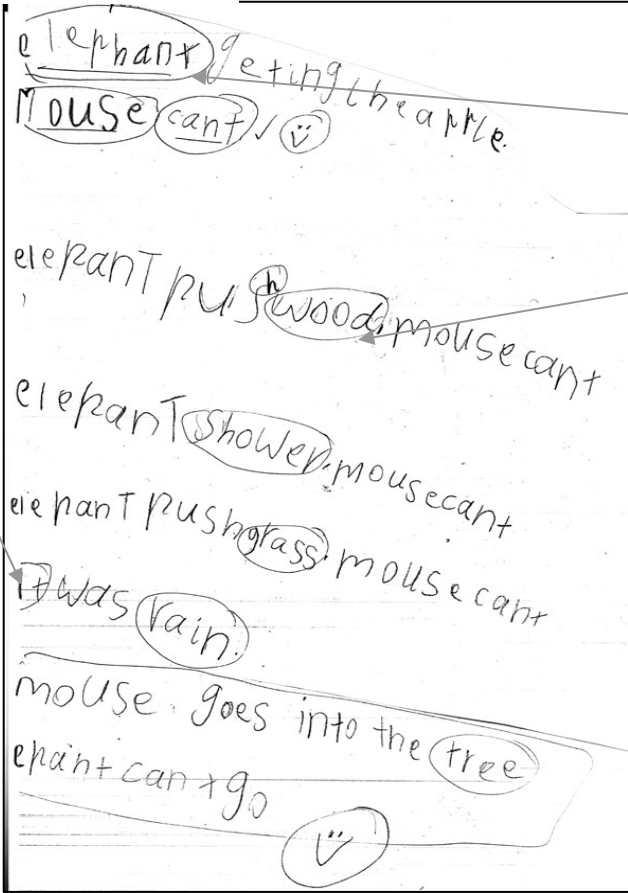
Stage BL progressing towards example 1

The student
Year Level: Year 4, 10-11 years old
Background: born in Sudan
Language: Dinka, a little Arabic
Schooling: very limited schooling in Arabic, perhaps 1 year, before starting at an English Language School in February, 2007. Not literate in any language.

The task
The students were read a story and used a series of pictures to write sentences to retell the story. This text was written in August, 2007 by the same student who wrote BL beginning, example 1. The student used the book as a reference for spelling (see underlined words) and also asked for assistance to spell some words (circled). Otherwise, the student worked independently.

The text shows that the student:

- writes sentences which reflect oral language structures
- writes some familiar words, e.g. 'the', 'was'
- has an awareness that words have a consistent spelling
- writes from left to right, top to bottom



- copies words from a text (underlined words)
- asks how to spell words (circled words)

This text is an example of a student progressing towards the BL standard. The student writes a series of sentences which reflect her oral language structures e.g. It was rain, elephant getting the apple. The student asks for help to spell unknown words and also looks for words in the text which was read to the group. The student spells some familiar words correctly, e.g. 'was', 'the'. The student is aware that words have a consistent spelling and writes from left to right, top to bottom.