


Stage S1 progressing towards example 2

The student:
Year Level: 17 year old girl
Background: Karen refugee; in Australia ~ 4 months
Language: Karen
Schooling: Has been to a missionary school, where she acquired a lot of English vocabulary

The task – students brainstormed pirate words on the board. There was a set of pictures in colour. Students chose to be one of the characters pictured and then wrote a first person narrative with no further support than the results of the brainstorm.

The text shows that the student:

- writes mainly using short sentences
- can usually correctly use SVO word order
- uses some common time markers
- combines clauses to make sentences – some have 3 clauses
- can write to communicate ideas
- uses pronouns consistently



Many years ago two frogs ~~leave~~
in the cave near the big river and rock.
Their name ~~were~~ John and Joseph. They
~~have~~ a big strong and big body. they
hold big knife and their face look like
terrible and angry. And look like the
king characters ~~was~~ too. They ~~were~~ best
friends and good friends. Their place was
nice, good and clear. Sometimes they want
to played with together. One day John
wanted to placed in the field but Joseph
~~didn't~~ want to played in the field. They
were fighting about it but they don't
care they were good friends. They
took together about their life for good
time. They played in the water and
they swam in the water because they
liked ~~over~~ and water. They were many
gold and silver in the box. They
were ~~big~~ fire and look like the
gold fire. They liked peace in their
life but sometimes they ~~were~~ fighting
when they were fighting, ~~one~~ butterfly
came and says stop fighting and
you don't angry your friend. Butterfly
was a good person for two frogs.
Butterfly was a good kindness.

- cannot experiment yet, but relies on repeating known structures and stories
- does not yet consistently produce correct English sentences
- is not yet attempting to use paragraphs
- can approximate narrative genre (note, this text went on longer than is reproduced here)

This student, progressing towards the Standard at S1 has begun to attempt her own sentences, although the focus is on meaning rather than grammatical accuracy. Most sentences tend to follow a basic subject-verb-object pattern, but with varying degrees of accuracy. With assistance, she can review her writing and identify aspects that might be changed or revised. She is developing control of the narrative genre and some other text types.