ESL Continuum Writing

Stage S2 beginning example 3

The student

Year Level: Yr 7, 12 years old Background: Born in Vietnam Language: Vietnamese

Schooling: Age equivalent schooling in Vietnam, spent 6 months at a primary English language school on arrival in Australia, before commencing

at a mainstream secondary school

The task

Students were set an independent writing task. They were asked to write about something they had found. The response below is a first draft of the student's text.

The text shows that the student:

shows an understanding of audience and purpose

uses oral language structures

experiments with tense with limited accuracy

uses irregular past tense forms of verbs but not always accurately

organises ideas into paragraphs

uses temporal conjunctions and connectives to sequence events e.g. while, finally

attempts to use complex sentences

I have been hear for an hour naw! It I o'clock and I didn't it my lunch just because I have to sit here in my boss office listen to what he said about me and how to make me come to work in the right time. It not my fault to come late! I said It my clock got. Peter which is my boss very angry and the sent me out.

I sat there and doing my bosing work. Sudenly Peter come out with a colour red on his face and that mean he angry. I never seen him that much angry after he just got a phone call. He tell my angryly that I have to gly to China rightnow and get a magic kristel ball for him in I was laugh and though it was a dump jobe. Then he said that If you not then you will get fired. It become serioused now and so I listen to him and went

It was pretty good in China people was very kind and the good was delisous. I almost jorgother about why I been here jor. It have been I day and I still didn't find any impormation about the krisks bull. I event ask severy about it but no answer has solves.

I learn abot of China longuage but
Day 10, 1'm still didn't have any impormation about the stupid
kristal magic thing: I was about to give up and got to
pack my cloth, ready for get fire. Sudenty I seen this
pretty old man and asked me for some good and drink
I have give all goods that I have to him. He eat very fast
and seem to be highly for a long time.

When he jinish his food I asked him about the magic knitted ball. He was looking at me with the worrieds in his eyes. While he slowly answer me that there was a magic that place in a very cleep of a mountain. There was some man that have been there and never come back. I was tallfuly freak out and scare, why my boss has asked me for a very dangers jid.

I thank the old man and pack my ready for my hillong trip . Page 1 of 1

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Finally I have been there. It was a very deep hole that u can't even see wat inside it. I went down and follow the intruction that the old man give it to me in a paper.

And how I get the knisted boll is was a long stories. But I past it and made it o I was pretty hopey that finally I could save my job and my voss of couse he will very excited. Maybe he could made me become a mangger, I thought.

Day 13, I ready my cloth and ready to go back to dustralia a But the people is china didn't let me go cause they want to keep it I was really conquere what should I do and yes I have live the ball back to them and went back to China.

I was lost my job that they but I'm still happy cause I did found some thing that really cool and I'm sure that I never forget how I jourd the kritel ball and it was a great trip.

This is an example of a student beginning to work towards the standard at S2 (S2.1). The student shows an understanding of the purpose of narrative texts and writes appropriately for an audience. The student relies on oral language structures to express ideas in writing, for example, 'it 1 o'clock', 'I never seen him that much of angry'.