Stage A1 progressing towards example 1

The student
Year Level: Prep
Background: born in Sudan, spent one year in Egypt on way to Australia
Language: Dinka
Schooling: began Prep in Victoria

The task
Before writing this text, the teacher conducted a shared writing task about activities in which the children might be involved outside of school. Students were then asked to write about their own experiences.

The text shows that the student:

- writes using strings of letters
  (‘I’ written correctly, attempt at ‘g’ for go, ‘z’ for zoo)
- dictates a sentence that reflects oral language
- uses some conventions for printed English i.e. left to right, top to bottom (although not always consistently)
- draws to illustrate a simple text
- knows the difference between writing and drawing

This text is an example of a student progressing towards A1. The child includes simple drawings and makes some attempts at copying or writing letters. The same letter/symbol is repeated throughout most of the text. The letters are recorded mostly from left to right, top to bottom but there is some evidence of random placement also. The child is able to assign a message to the symbols by dictating to the teacher. The sentence is reflective of a simple oral language structure and is in the present simple tense.