The student
Year Level: Prep  
Background: Somali, born in New Zealand  
Language: Somali  
Schooling: began Prep in Victoria

The task
The students were learning about the seasons. Sentence beginnings were written on the board as a prompt for the students to complete after a class discussion.

The text shows that the student:
- writes a simple factual text
- copies words correctly from various sources
- knows that words are separated by spaces
- writes using lower and upper case letters
- spells unknown words using letters to represent sounds heard
- writes some common words correctly
- forms most letters correctly
- includes full stops and capital letters

Leaves have veins.  
Leaves are soft and hard.  
Leaves grow from seeds.

This text is an example of a student at A1 Standard. The student writes simple sentences to describe leaves. The student writes from left to right and leaves spaces between most of the words. The student completes the sentence beginnings provided by the teacher with words that have been part of the preceding oral discussion and the topic. The words written on the board are copied correctly and some commonly used words are spelt correctly. The student has also copied words available in the classroom on word lists. Attempts at unknown words show an awareness of representing words using sound-letter relationships.