The student
Year Level: 11 year old boy who had just moved to his second primary school
Background: Iraqi background, but born in Iran; His family had been in Australia 15 months, 9 of them in a detention centre.
Language: Arabic

The task
The student was asked a series of questions about his background, in a one on one interview situation with an adult (Int).

The text shows that the student:
- uses time markers but not past tense
- can use “to be” correctly
- uses negation (putting ‘not’ after “to be”)
- takes quite long turns, 5–6 words
- engages appropriately in the conversation
- does not always use comprehensible pronunciation
- attempts to mark past time

This text is an example of a student beginning to work towards the Standard at B2. He is improving his comprehension of English and use of social and classroom language. He is able to engage in social interactions using language beyond short utterances and formulas, however breakdowns in accuracy and fluency occur as he takes more risks.