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
- 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.