Stage S2 | beginning | example 1

The student
Year Level: 8
Background: Iraqi. Came after some time in Syria waiting for a visa
Language: Aramaic/Arabic
Schooling: interrupted. Language school in Sydney

The task
A one-to-one interview, where the student was able to respond at length to prompt questions from the interviewer (int).

The text shows that the student:

- can initiate a topic change in a conversation
- can give a short impromptu response on a familiar topic
- can maintain an exchange using turn taking
- makes a direct appeal for assistance
- uses features of the English tense system, but not consistently accurately (from S1)
- can usually use correct pronouns, but makes some errors
- needs an attentive conversation partner who asks for clarification, paraphrasing etc to express complex meanings

This student is beginning to work towards the Standard at S2 and can respond to questions related to immediate social and familiar topics with scaffolding. (Although he may still make mistakes, he has gained the confidence to offer complex information. He attempts to use the language creatively beyond set formulaic expressions for well rehearsed tasks, such as giving this impromptu story about a familiar topic.) Although he might not yet be able to use it effectively, he demonstrates an awareness that language changes between social and formal contexts.