The student
Year Level: 14 years old
Background: born in China
Language: Mandarin
Schooling: Age equivalent schooling before beginning school in Victoria at an English Language School

The task
Students brainstormed pirate words on the board. There was a set of pictures in colour on their sheets. 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. (Note: This student is not the same student who wrote S1 Standard, example 1 although the background is similar.)

The text shows that the student:

- uses paragraphs to organise ideas
- uses simple past tense with reasonable consistency
- links ideas with basic conjunctions
- includes some direct speech
- uses familiar vocabulary
- writes a creative text
- omits verbs, articles
- uses simple, compound and some complex sentences
- uses subject-verb agreement with some consistency
- attempts present perfect tense

This text is an example of a student beginning to work towards the S2 Standard. The student writes a simple creative text based on a picture. The student writes using simple or compound sentences, and also includes some complex sentences. The student builds a picture of her character as a pirate through simple descriptions of what she does a pirate. A few adjectives are used to describe nouns in the text, e.g. ‘dangerous’, ‘very big and beautiful’. The text is written mostly in the simple past tense. Articles and verbs are sometimes omitted.