The student
Year Level: 15 year old, recently arrived
Background: born in Sierra Leone
Language: Kerio
Schooling: Interrupted schooling, spent 3 months in an English language school in Victoria

The task
The class was asked to write a text ‘about me’. Students studied this topic focusing on how to provide personal information and describe their physical features. This task was set as an extension activity for students who had completed a booklet ‘Personal Profile’. The text became a preparation for the students’ oral presentations about themselves.

The text shows that the student:

- writes using short, formulaic structures
- writes on the lines
- uses upper and lower case letters
- includes a heading
- spells most familiar words accurately
- uses basic punctuation

This is an example of a student at SL Standard (S0.3). The student writes a simple text about herself using familiar structures and vocabulary. At times, the student confuses questions and answers, for example, ‘I do you come from Sirre Lono’, ‘I language do you speak kkrie’.