The Gentle Marker

Sample student report

Student E’s narrative

Student E · Year 5 · Narrative

Example rubric score

32 / 47

These marks describe this piece of writing. Only the national test gives you a NAPLAN proficiency level. ACARA’s guide to the levels

Writing task

Year 5 narrative. The original task wording was not supplied.

What worked well

You let us see what Asher is afraid of losing when she wonders whether she will taste her mum’s soup again. That small thought about home gives us a reason to care whether she makes it back.

You show Asher’s hands shaking just before she uses the axe. Because we know she is frightened, her choice to cross the gap tells us more about her courage than calling her brave would.

Your next steps

Pause between Asher spotting the shivering panther and reaching for her axe. We understand that she needs proof, but we only discover that she wants to help when the blanket comes out. Let us see what changes for her so that caring for the panther becomes part of what the mission means to her.

Try this revision

Before Asher reaches for the axe, add one or two sentences showing what goes through her mind as she watches the panther. Then cover the rest of the paragraph. Ask a partner what Asher wants to do now and why. Can they tell without seeing the blanket?

Words you spelt well

Mountain, headquarters, commander, courageous, protégé, Avalanche, mission, violence, flabbergasted, sweat, emergency, journey

Your rubric

The examples below are taken from your writing.

Criterion and evidence	Mark
Audience How you help your reader follow and care about what you are saying. *“She thought about if she would ever taste her mums chicken soup ever again, and with that she started her journey.”*	4/6
Text structure How you organise the beginning, middle and ending of your piece. *“Your mission is to uncover the truth about the runaway black panther in the Blue Mountains, because to many peop…”*	3/4
Ideas How you develop your main ideas with details. *“She scrambled to find her med kit, the cut was stinging, she was sweating, and the stressed protégé finally band…”*	3/5
Character and setting How you show who is in the story and where it happens. *“She thought about if she would ever taste her mums chicken soup ever again, and with that she started her journey.”*	3/4
Vocabulary How precisely your word choices express what you mean. *“young but courageous protégé”*	4/5
Cohesion How you link ideas so the reader can follow them. *“thought about how far she had left.”*	3/4
Paragraphing How you group sentences and choose where to start a new paragraph. *“Safe for now…* *Finally, she had made it to the location where the panther was once seen.”*	2/2
Sentence structure How you build and vary your sentences. *“She sat down for a long time, and just thought about how far she had left.”*	3/6
Punctuation How your punctuation helps the reader hear and understand each sentence. *“She didn't have time to lose, she was already suiting up her emergency kit and map.”*	2/5
Spelling How accurately you spell the words you use. *“courageous protégé”*	5/6

Your original writing

Inside the Magic Mountain headquarters, commander Mia Mountain looked into the eyes of her young but courageous protégé, Asher Avalanche. Mia placed a dusty map on the lab desk, " Your mission is to uncover the truth about the runaway black panther in the Blue Mountains, because to many people have been causing violence over it". The flabbergasted explorers head pounded, and sweat trickled down her spine. She didn't have time to lose, she was already suiting up her emergency kit and map. She thought about if she would ever taste her mums chicken soup ever again, and with that she started her journey.

After days of exploration, she made it a quarter way through, her legs were sore, she had dark bags under her eyes and Asher was sleep deprived. "Ow" she screamed, Asher had just cut her arm on a large rock. She scrambled to find her med kit, the cut was stinging, she was sweating, and the stressed protégé finally bandaged it up. She sat down for a long time, and just thought about how far she had left. Safe for now…

Finally, she had made it to the location where the panther was once seen. She sat on a cliff and took a deep breath, and took in how far she had come. Woosh, crumble, the map had flown away from the strong winds. The sound of silence was loud, she could taste the coffee she had that morning. As she ran to try catch it she fell on her face but got back up, she still couldn't feel her legs and was exhausted of hiking. And yes!, the relived hiker had gotten hold of the rusty map and shoved it into her bag angrily.

At the vast open plains, Asher hid behind a tree and took a good look at the majestic mythical creature. It was guarding a eucalyptus tree on the other side of the cliff, and was shivering due to the cold. With shaking hands, Asher grabbed her axe and started chopping down the bottom of the tree. It started falling towards the other side and crashed into it, then she started walking across it, her heart pounding, throat dry as a rock. Asher had finally gotten to the other side where the panther was, she took out her fluffiest blanket and placed it onto her, while taking images to prove it.

As the sunset faded, the long awaited Magic Mountain company sweated with every minute. She radioed Commander Mia Mountain, she could hear cheers from the other side with made her smile. She settled down another eucalyptus tree and thought about what her next mission would be.