English writing

Working at the expected standard: Kim

This document contains a collection of work from a real year 2 pupil, Kim, (whose name has been changed), who meets the **Working at the Expected** criteria for writing as given by the government. These examples can help support parents and children in writing. Please read the annotations of the examples later which talk in detail what features have been included in the example to make it an Expected Standard piece.

Kim: pupil scripts

Piece A: Explanation

A Moltey tost machine Tou plug in the machine. Then you switch it on. The to moltey task computer Will go bleep, bu 22, bleep and then you press a bot buton on the key bord. The Machine will bido in Amg. A anay you want, Beface you do anything Make sure you have pluged everything in Property. Then Switch on the tv box so you can wach every thing that is haperning inside the machine! There were lots OG Spiders in the atic. Some thing was Gaping its Wings behind a X enormal box. X I wonder what is in that bot thought Elecost. He crept Closer to open box the but Suddency a pigeon the out Srom behind the bot. Go away! Said Elect acety. The pigeon Ste went out the windo. Sew Sidd Eloct that was Close.

Piece C: Narrative

Meet Fred. Fred loves to sind things. One day Fred Said to his mum I'm boad. 60 Into The Attic! said his num. And so he did. Fred Ment into the attic. It was really dorck in the attic and there were werry deep holes in the soor. Just then some thing caught his eye. It was some boxes ontop oss each other. One was long are one was sat and the the other was a silver case. Fred toot has then all down stats. & First he opened the sther which had wires in it. Soon we had opened all of them.

Fred put all the parts tagether. it made a computer. Suchally the It Spalled a White box whith 3 pins. It was a plug Fred pluged in the plug. The computer said DELL. Whatever doies that mean ? Thought Fred. He made jumpers, bread and bufor that he had finish writing the machine ment boom. Fred was sad. If he went to the garange got some tools and but it back together. From that day on Fred used his machine everyday ton to knit his school jumps.

Piece D: Letter and instructions

Dear Eelliote We know what you machine is it's a typewriter How to use it: 1. First put the paper in the typ writer. 2. Larn the did to seed the paper into the typusiter 3. Next pash the Keys down stimuy 4. Now push the suver lever down an theside of the typanitor you are 5. If you hear a ding that means your at the erend drog the line dingl dingl away 6. You can't take any thing 08 CF you make a mistake. bat Space . I hope you lean how to use your typuniter love from XXX Now you can typ Letters to me.

Piece E: Description

My dragon is a fire dragoh. his breth can make cars sisel like dinamite. Isx you make him angry, he will breath fings of fire at you. Wen when whe flys; he lights up the sky It like the sun. He flives in the center of the sun. He flives in the center of the fire in the goss goes to sleep the fire in the Sun goesout. He can turn things to Stone, make people catch fire and make things explode. He can all so turn any ting into food of when he gets angry he will thow your in the sun!

Piece F: Information

//issing one dragon

Last seen flying out of forest school ON mondaynight. He has a silver tummy, black body and black feet. It Will breath fire at you and eat you up! If seen then please report on 06930461300 999013. If seen and not reported you will be tacked in jail for three years! You will be Rewarded E 900 or 30 9306 bucks if yo report. Whatever you do do not shoot it! Its Claws are silver so it is easy tobeseen. Class 3 year 2. Yesterday we wrent to bishops Albod to look sor mini-beastes. First we had a sure. Next We went into the woods. Vicki gave us a mira It was very scary: because it was like you were wouking in the sky! Then we had to gide our Sriends to a tree After that we had a sincky pornitors party Mine was discusting. Finally it was hunch time! After hunch we were pond diping our group found a next. Last of all we sorted out aminals. Finally it was home time.

The trip was great! my favrite part of the day was idenating the trees.

Kim: annotations

Piece A: Explan	ation	Key
McLaughlin. The cla machine which coul modelled how to wri discussed their idea own multi-task macl	of a topic based on <i>The Story Machine</i> by Tom ss had heard the story and created their own d carry out more than one task. The teacher had is an explanation earlier in the week. The class is and then worked independently to describe their ine. Kim has edited and proof-read the work.	 [C] composition [GP] grammar and punctuation [T] transcription
The explanation of how the machine works is clear and well- sequenced. A lively drawing in the original supports the text. Adverbials (<i>Then</i> , <i>Before</i>), as well as a subordinate clause acting as an adverbial, help to sequence the	A moltey tast machine Youplug in the machine. Than yuo you switch it on. The to moltey task computer will gobleep, buzz, bleepand then you press a bot buton on the key	The pupil maintains the present tense correctly throughout the explanation. [GP] On re-reading the work, the pupil has added the commas for items in a list [GP]
explanation. The key sentence for the pupil is The Machine will do anything you want. The modal verb ('will') assures the reader of the power of this invented machine, but the sentence is followed by a warning about doing everything properly, in the right order. [C] All sentences are correctly demarcated with capital	bord. The Machine will bdo the Any A aney anything you want. Before you do anything make sure you have pluged everything in properly. Then Switch on the tv box So you can wach every thing that is haperning inside the machine! The subordinating conjunction (so) introduces the long The pupil uses the imperative verbs (Make sure,	The pupil joins the two main clauses with the coordinating conjunction 'and'. [GP] The subordinate clause (Before you do anything) acts as an adverbial; the main clause (make sure you have plugged everything in properly) tells the reader what they must do before switching on the 'TV box'.
letters and full stops or an exclamation mark. In the fin sentence, although a full sto would have been correct, th exclamation mark is also correct in the context. [GP]	subordinate clause switch) so that the reader knows explanation. what to do.	[GP] Capital letters are clear They are mostly of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower-
computer, bleep, buzz, mak attempts at others are phon moltey, buton, bord, pluged evidence that the pupil can phonemes and represent th is not the case, this might b	wach and haperning, segment spoken words into ase by graphemes. Where this the result of the pupil ronouncing it. The pupil's own tion being paid to spelling: how to spell it as pair of the teaching of spelling. Word banks specific to the book were also available available on 'washing	case letters. The letter is less well-formed tha other letters in terms of size and relationship. The relationship acros the lower-case letters good in you, go and of The spacing between words reflects the size the letters.
Many common exception w every, so, any). [T]	ords are correct (you, go, the, [T]	[T] Page 8 of 25

Piece B: Description (setting)	Key
This was part of a topic based on <i>The Story Machine</i> by Tom McLaughlin. The book comprises pictures, in the main, and Kim describes here what Elliott, the main character, saw when he went into the attic. The word 'pigeon' was given by the teacher to the class. Kim has edited the work.	 [C] composition [GP] grammar and punctuation [T] transcription

Although this works more as a narrative, effective details help to set the scene: 'lots of spiders', 'some thing' unknown 'flaping its wings' behind the 'enormous box'. The choice of vocabulary is good: spiders, flapping, crept closer, quietly.

Elliott's musing – 'I wonder what is in that box' – and his reactions to the pigeon and its disappearance – 'Go away!' and 'Few' (Phew) – contribute to the picture being painted about how Elliott is feeling in the attic, that is, both threatened and relieved. [C] There were lots of spiders in the attic. Some thing was Flaping its Wings behind a I enormas box.s I wonder what is in that box thought Eleiott. He crept closer to open the box but suddenly a pijean pigeon came out from behind the box. Go away! said Elleit Qietly. The pijaon pigeon fl went out the window. fFew siaaid Eloit that was close.

Virtually all sentences are correctly demarcated with capital letters and full stops. The exclamation mark is correct. Another exclamation mark could have been used after 'Few' (Phew). [GP]

Many words are spelled correctly: attic, spiders, box, wonder, what, thought, crept, closer, suddenly, behind, away, window. Attempts at others are phonically-plausible, including flaping and enormas, evidence that the pupil can segment spoken words into phonemes and represent these by graphemes. The pupil's own corrections show good attention being paid to spelling: boxs becomes box; siad becomes said.

Many common exception words from year 1 are correct (*there, were, the, some, was, said, is*). The piece does not use the common exception words as examples for year 2. [T] Capital letters are clear. They are mostly of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower-case letters. The letters in 'away' are very well formed in terms of their relationship to one another, but the handwriting in other words is not always done quite so well. The letter 'b' in 'box', 'but' and 'behind' does not appear to be formed correctly. Two diagonal joins are evident in 'spiders' and 'flapping' but the writing is otherwise unjoined.

The spacing between words reflects the size of the letters. [T]

used correctly and consistently throughout the description. When Elliott thinks, 'I

The past tense (including

the past progressive) is

wonder what is in that box', the pupil uses the present tense correctly, returning to the past tense when Elliott reflects: 'That was close.' [GP]

The coordinating conjunction 'but' draws attention to the pigeon's sudden appearance just as Elliot was creeping towards it. [GP]

Piece C: Narrative	Кеу
This was part of a topic based on <i>The Story Machine</i> by Tom McLaughlin. The pupils had heard and discussed the story before rewriting it, adding in their own machine (the multi-task machine piece). The piece was initiated by Kim and self-reviewed.	[C] composition [GP] grammar and punctuation
	[T] transcription

This narrative begins with the imperative 'Meet Fred', reflecting 'Meet Elliott' that opens the original story.

The pupil has used the idea of the unusual machine and made it their own, including finding the machine in the attic and putting all the parts together. As in the original story, something goes wrong. The problem is neatly resolved in the final sentences.

The adverbials show Kim sequencing events clearly; they contribute effectively to the coherence of the narrative: One day; Just then...; First...; Soon....; Suddenly.... From that day on...

Speech is also used effectively, as in Mum's words to Fred at the start and Fred's musings when the computer 'said Dell': 'Whatever does that mean? Thought Fred'. In both cases, the end punctuation is correct. [C] Meet Fred. Fred loves to find things.

One day Fred said to his mum I'm boad. GO Into ThE Attic! said his mum. And so he did. Fred whent into the attic. it It was really darck in the attic and there were verry deep holes in the foor. Just then some thing caught his eye. it It was some boxes ontop of each other. One was long ane one was fat and the the other was a silver case. Fred toat toos toock took them all down stais. f-First he opened the silver one which had wires in it. soon Soon he had opened all of them.

Fred put all the parts together. it made a computer. Sudenly he hotteet spotted a white box whith wit 3 pins. it It was a plug Fred pluged in the plug. JThe computer said DEII. Whatever does that mean? Thought Fred. He made Unlike the original story, the pupil neatly uses the present tense to introduce the main character before moving into the past tense consistently for the rest of the narrative. The present tense opening is effective and is consistent with the imperative: 'Meet Fred'. [GP] [C]

The coordinating conjunction 'and' joins the two main clauses. [GP]

The coordinating conjunction 'and' joins the third main clause to the other two. [GP]

The past perfect tense 'had opened' helps to establish the relationship between the events described. [GP]

The digit 3 is the correct size in relation to the lower-case letters. [T]

Despite the re-reading and editing, this sentence possibly does not reflect what the pupil was trying to say: 'He made jumpers, bread and [noun omitted?] but, before he had finished writing everything down that he could do, the machine went boom." Nevertheless, this shows a very promising attempt at a complex. multi-clause sentence that includes a subordinate clause (...bufor he had finish writeing every thing down...).

jumpers, bread and bufor he[had finish] writeing every thing de down that the machine went boom. Fred was sad. se So he went to the gararge got some tools and put it back together. From that day on Fred used his machine everyday knitting to kint his school to knit his school jumper.

The pupil uses the past perfect tense here to signal the interruption when the machine goes 'Boom'.

[GP] [C]

Virtually all sentences are correctly demarcated with capital letters and full stops. The question mark and the exclamation mark are both correct. IGP1

Many words are spelled correctly: meet, things, really, attic, holes, caught, computer, spotted, white, silver, case, opened, used, machine, thought, tools, together, attempts at others are phonically-plausible, including verry, darck, sudenly and gararge, evidence that the pupil can segment spoken words into phonemes and represent these by graphemes.

Many common exception words from year 1 and year 2 are correct (said, his, was, some, one, there, school, eye, love/s). The year 2 common exception word 'floor' is not correct. The writing and the pupil's own corrections to it show them learning to distinguish between words that start with 'wh' and 'w' (e.g. whent, whith). Capital letters are mostly of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower-case letters. Importantly, this handwriting is well-formed. The relationship across the lower-case letters is excellent in loves, mum. was, some, put. all.

The diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join some letters are very clear. To add emphasis, the pupil seems to have deliberately chosen not to join the letters where Fred's mum shouts, 'Go Into ThE Attic!'

The spacing between words reflects the size of the letters.

[T]

[T]

[GP]

Piece D: Lett	er and instruction	ons	Кеу
McLaughlin. The explaining the pu typewriter). Kim o	pupils were asked to rpose of the machine	ions in the letter, illustrated	[C] composition [GP] grammar and punctuation [T] transcription
This successful piece combines a letter with a numbered list of nstructions. The letter begins appropriately with a greeting and closes with a sign-off. The realistic postscript brings the etter alive and shows the	is (it's) a typ wri How to use it: 1. First put th	We know what you machin ter. e paper in the typ writer. liel to feed the paper into t	correct here but is no correctly punctuated i cant in instruction 6. [GP] [T]
etter allive and shows the pupil's engagement in his task. The numbered nstructions for using the ypewriter are clearly sequenced and provide an accurate account of using a manual ypewriter. Adverbials contribute effectively to	print a lette 4. Now push side of the 5. If you hear are at the 6. You cant ta	the suver lever down on th typwriter a ding that means your y a end atof the line. ding! o ake any thing of away[if]yo	he conjunction 'If starts the subordinate clause that precedes the main clause that (that means you are at the end of the line). OU [GP] ding!
coherence: First; Next; Now. The sentences are a udicious mixture of commands, with verbs in the imperative form for the instructions (put, turn, push), and statements for guidance and advice, ncluding a modal verb (You cant). This variety contributes to the effective and convincing ione of the letter, friendly and yet instructive.	I hope you lea	stake! baskspace in how to use your typwrite xxx Now you can typ lette The subordinate clause, beginning with 'if', follows the main clause (You can take any thing away) and adds variety to the sentence structures over [C] [GP]	ers either because they recognise the full versi- is more in keeping with instructional tone or because they are unsu of where to put the apostrophe. [C] [GP]
C] [GP] Capital letters are mostly of orientation and relationship and to lower-case letters. The size between capitals and lo clear. The lower-case letters in the are an even size. As the pup interested in the content of t quality of the handwriting is However, the letters overall and the orientation is good. The spacing between words of the letters.	to one another ne difference in ower-case letters is e first instruction pil becomes he letter, the less consistent. are well-formed	Many words are spelled correcti machine, feed, paper, lever, hea mistake, letters, use, hope, how attempt to spell 'dial' is phonicall indicating that they can segmen words into phonemes and repre by graphemes. While there are s in hearing sounds and segments as lean for 'learn' and you for 'yo are few. Contracted forms are sometimes it's, but not cant. The common exception words fr and year 2 are correct (push, pu- love). [T]	ar, ding, . The pupil's ly-plausible, it spoken ssent these some errors ation, such our', these is correct: rom year 1 demarcated wi capital letters a full stops. The exclamation marks are corr [GP] The digits in th numbered list a suitable size relation to the

Piece E: Desci	Кеу	
around the book Te week, the pupils ha lesson and pupils w has edited and pro		[C] composition [GP] grammar and punctuation [T] transcription The subordinating
The pupil has engaged well with describing the dragon and enjoyed using similes such as 'sizzle like dynamite'. As the piece develops, the dragon is increasingly described as the sun rather than being described as simply 'like the sun'. The reader is told that' When he goes to sleep, the fire in the sun goes out.' The different sentence structures in this writing contribute to its variety and interest. The dragon's powers are listed in sentence 7: turning things to stone, making people catch fire and making things explode. The pupil punctuates this multi- clause sentence correctly throughout. The present tense is correct and consistent throughout the description. Modal verbs are used to suggest possibility in terms of the dragon's likely behaviour: <i>If you make him angry, he will breath rings of fire at you and when he gets angry, he will thow you in the sun.</i> [C] [GP]	My dragon is a fire dragon. his breth can make cars sisel like dinamite. If, you make him angry, he will breath rings of fire at you. Won wWhent + he flys; he lights up the sky li like the sun. hHe I lives in the center of the sun. wWhen, hegese goes to sleep the fire in sthe the sun goesout. He can turn things to stone, make people catch fire and make things explode. He can allso turn any ting into food or when he gets angry he will thow yowu in the sun!	The subordinating conjunction, <i>If</i> , opens th subordinate clause. In th next sentence, a similar subordinating conjunctio <i>When</i> , adds variety. [GP] This correction, done in the process of the writin shows the pupil actively monitoring spelling and recognising the error straightaway. Other error are also picked up in prof-reading. [T] The spelling of 'also' shows the pupil applying spelling knowledge, albe
	Many words are spelled correctly: <i>dragon;</i> <i>dynamile, angry, lights, when, things, turn, catch,</i> <i>stone, explode.</i> The pupil's attempt to spell 'sizzle', 'centre' and 'also' are phonically-plausible, indicating that they can segment spoken words into phonemes and represent these by graphemes. Errors in some other words are minor, including <i>breth</i> for 'breath' and <i>breath</i> for 'breathe'. These two errors show the pupil actively thinking about the differences between these two closely related words; the spellings distinguish between the sounds heard. The common exception words listed as examples for year 1 and year 2 are correct here, including <i>people</i> from year 2. [T]	Capital letters are clearly distinguished from lower case letters, although the vary in size, especially where the pupil has proo read and changed them. The lower-case letters va in size across this piece, although they are always orientated correctly. As in Piece D, the quality of th handwriting is less consistent as the pupil appears to become interested in the content.
stops or an exclamation ma	are correctly demarcated with capital letters and either full rk. The pupil has also used some commas correctly to as from main clauses (part of the KS2 programme of study).	The spacing between words reflects the size of the letters. [T]

Piece F: Inform	ation		Key	
around the book Te based on an oral re description (Piece B opening and closing	opic on the Great Fire of <i>Il me a Dragon</i> by Jack port and followed on fro E). The pupils had been g paragraphs. Kim edite re producing this final v	kie Morris. This was om the dragon n asked to focus on the ed this piece	1.1.2.1.1.2.2.0.2.1.1	ammar and nctuation
This piece reflects very successfully the tone and content of a 'Missing' boster asking for nformation.		it of forest school on	no ve hij fe	he three expanded oun phrases work ery effectively to ghlight specific atures of the dragon.
The first line is not a complete sentence – there s no main verb – but it is exactly what is needed to open the piece. Other eatures are consistent with	monday night. He has a silver tummy, blue		ou se	se of comma to eparate items in the list. SP]
he tone and content, such as 'If seen, then' and Please report on', with he implied pronoun 'if'. The verbs chosen are	and eat you up! If seen then please report on: 069 30666 1300 999 013. If seen and not reported you will be locked in jail for		t dt	he passive verb is well hosen, adding an fficial tone. 11
correct and consistent hroughout the piece. Including the present tense or description ('He has a silver tummy', 'Its claws are silver') and the use of a modal verb 'It will breathe lire at you'. The telephone number and he reward offered add	three years! You w 309306 bucks if yo do not shoot it! jits	rill be Rewarded £900 preport. Whatever you claws are silver so it is	or Tr ve do cc fo	he passive form of the arb here is also well- tosen and entirely onsistent with the semi- rmal tone of the fissing' poster.
convincing details, as do the description of the dragon and the extra information about the distinctive features – the end. C]	easy tobeseen. The subordinate claus conjunction Whateve important information that follows: ' do not [C]	r' alerts the reader to in the main clause	with 'so', sh construct a clause sent	finate clause, beginning lows the pupil trying to challenging multi- tence: either ' so it is it' or ' so it is easily
Many words are spelled corre- Monday (but without a capital) blue, body, reported, rewarder slaws. The mis-spelling of yo to penultimate line seem to be a error, which the pupil should b proof-reading. Spelling 'breathe' as breath, a he pupil actively thinking abor spelling is phonically-plausible can segment spoken words in epresent these by grapheme: The common exception words	, night, silver, tummy, d, whatever, easy, for 'you' in the slip rather than an e able to identify in s in Piece D, shows ut this word. The t, indicating that they to phonemes and a.	Capital letters are clearly d from lower-case letters. Tw incorrect: missing in Mondi incorrectly inserted in 'Rew The lower-case letters are correct size and are related another. Their orientation is digits in the reward relate to case letters; this is less the telephone number. The spacing between word size of the letters very well. [T]	o capitals are ay and arded'. mostly of the i to one correct. The o the lower- case in the s reflects the	correctly demarcated with either full- stops or exclamation marks. Except for the final one, all of them start with

Piece G: Recount	Key
This piece was in response to a school visit to a local outdoor centre. The class had discussed the events of the day before writing about them.	 [C] composition [GP] grammar and punctuation [T] transcription

This recount of a real event, a school visit, is clear and simple and fulfils its recording purpose effectively. It combines an account of the day's activities with the pupil's responses and a summary comment on the day. This also functions as a 'simple, coherent narrative about personal experiences'.

The pupil chooses the past tense (both the simple past and the past progressive), maintaining this consistently throughout. All the past tense verbs are correct.

Many of the sentences open with adverbials (Yesterday, First, Next, Then, After that, Finally, After lunch, Last of all). These contribute to the coherence of this report and guide the reader through it. [C] Yesterday we went to bishops Wood to look for mini-beastes. Firist we had a snack snack. Next we went into the woods. Vicki gave us a mira. It was verry scarry because it was like you were walking in the sky! Then we had to gide our friends to a tree. After that we had a sincky pocniton parrty mine was discusting. Finaly it was lunch time! After lunch we went pond diping our group found a newt. Last of all we sorted out animals. Finally it was home time.

The trip was great! my favrite part of the day was idenafing the trees.

Π

The pupil uses the subordinating conjunction 'because' to explain why using the mirror in the woods was verry scarry. Almost all the other sentences consist of single clauses, i.e. with no co-ordination or subordination; they simply relate the events of the day, using adverbials to provide cohesion. [GP1 [C1

Most of the sentences are correctly demarcated with capital letters and full stops or, in 3 sentences, with an exclamation mark. [GP]

Capitals are clearly distinguished from lowercase letters. The lower-case letters are mostly of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to the capital letters. The word 'was' is particularly well formed.

The spacing between words reflects the size of the letters very well.

Diagonal and horizontal joins needed to join letters are clear in this piece, although joining 'e' to a preceding 'w' or a 'v' (as in went and very) creates an unusual form which should be corrected. The pupil rightly chooses not to join lower-case letters to capitals.

[T]

Many words are spelled correctly: yesterday, bishops, first, snack, walking, sky, lunch, found, group, newt, animals, sorted and great.

The pupil can segment spoken words into phonemes and represent these by graphemes, as shown in the phonicallyplausible spellings of *mini-beastes*, *mira*, *verry*, *scarry*, *parrty*, gide and *descusting*. The spelling of *favrite* probably reflects the pupil's pronunciation. The attempts at spelling 'identifying', 'disgusting' and 'stinky potion' suggest that the pupil tends to falter when identifying individual phonemes in longer or less familiar words and simply has a stab at them instead.

Some suffixes are used correctly: -s, -ed and -ing. The -ly suffix has not yet been mastered fully, as shown in *finaly*.

The few common exception words used in this piece are correct (the, we, was, because, friend/s).