Year 1 English Creative Writing

Student assessment

Sentence formation, detail, story sequence, vocabulary and imaginative expression. Suggested time: 30–40 minutes.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Instructions: Try each question. You may draw pictures or explain your thinking. Ask an adult to read instructions if needed.

Sentence building

1. Write a complete sentence about a puppy. Include what it is doing.

2. Make this sentence more interesting: “The bird flew.”

3. Write a sentence using the word “because”.

4. Look around the room. Describe one object using two adjectives.

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Ideas and organisation

5. Imagine you find a tiny door in your garden. Where might it lead? Write two sentences.

6. Write three sentences in order: what happened first, next and last when you found a mysterious key.

7. Choose a character: a shy dragon or a brave mouse. Describe how the character feels and why.

Creative story

8. Story challenge: “One morning, my school bag began to talk...” Write a short story of 5–8 sentences. Include a beginning, a problem and an ending.

9. Read your story again. Add one detail that helps a reader imagine the place.

10. Underline one sentence you are proud of. Explain to an adult why you chose it.

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How to use this assessment

Allow breaks and let your child explain ideas aloud. Do not coach answers during the initial attempt. Note whether each answer was independent, prompted or supported. This is a learning snapshot, not a formal diagnosis or a fixed ability label.

Suggested answers and assessment notes

1. Open response: complete thought, subject and action
2. Open response: adds meaningful action, setting or detail
3. Open response: sensible cause and effect
4. Open response: two suitable describing words
5. Open response: imaginative, connected ideas
6. Open response: chronological sequence
7. Open response: feeling supported by a reason
8. Open response: coherent story with beginning, problem and ending
9. Open response: relevant sensory or setting detail
10. Open response: child can reflect on a writing choice

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What parents should look for

Do not correct every spelling error while the child is drafting. First observe whether ideas flow, sentences make sense and events follow an understandable order. Afterwards, choose one target such as capitals and full stops or adding detail. Ask “What did your character see?” and “How did the problem get solved?” Praise specific choices rather than only neat handwriting.

Simple observation record

Strengths noticed: _____

Skills to revisit: _____

Next activity to try: _____

Please encourage effort, reasoning and curiosity. Use the results to plan gentle next steps, not to compare children.