

This is a narrative example of a second grade student's paper that scored a "4" (Advanced) on a prompt that was to write about your worst day. The student had to write the paper with **NO HELP** from the teacher and at one sitting (no second time to fix errors or revise ideas). The time allowed is usually 45 minutes to one hour, which includes time to plan (quick sketch/quick notes), write and edit.

### I Hit My Teeth on a Rock

One day I was at home playing with my dog. I asked my dad if I could go over to Amy's house. He said "If it's ok with them." I said it was. I walked up the hill and went to Amy's house. When I got there we tried to figure out what to do. Amy said "How about we go swimming." At that minute the doorbell rang and Amy went to go get it. She said "Hi Helene." Then we went to go put our bathing suits on. When we were ready we went out to the backyard. We put our towels down and walked out to the pool. Then Amy said, " Can you jump from this rock to this big rock, your sister can." I said yes, I can." I got on to the rock with Amy and Helene behind me. They said "Ready set go." and I jumped. From what I knew I was laying face first on a big rock. I had a scraped up chi, my whole mouth was dripping blood, and Amy and Helene just stared. All I could say was this can't be hapening. I repeated it over and over again. Amy's mom called my dad and I had to go to the dentist. Even though the dentist wasn't open on Sundays I went anyway. The dentist was really nice, too. I know I'll never do anything like that again.

#### Writing Skills noted in the "4" paper:

- Although it contains few errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling), these errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.
- There is a title and the paragraph is indented.
- The student has a beginning, middle and an ending with good details and descriptions of the events in a logical sequence (well-organized).
- The student sticks to the topic (your worst day) and didn't bring in other information that would detract from the story. The original student paper had legible handwriting.
- The student writer engages the reader and shows an independent, fluent writing style.

This is an expository example of a second grade student's paper that scored a "3" (Grade Level) on a prompt that was to write about your favorite season. The student had to write the paper with **NO HELP** from the teacher and at one sitting (no second time to fix errors or revise ideas). The time allowed is usually 45 minutes to one hour, which includes time to plan (power outline), write and edit.

### Summertime Fun

Summer is my favorite season for many reasons. The first reason why I enjoy the summer is because of the great weather. It is hot and sunny, so I can wear shorts and t-shirts. I also like to go the beach in the summer. I can swim in the ocean and build sand castles. Finally I can go on vacations during the summer. I go to visit my family in Coneticut. I also like to go camping on the weekends. These are the reasons I love summer.

#### Writing Skills noted in the "3" paper:

- Although it contains few errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling), these errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.
- There is a title and the paragraph is indented.
- The student starts with a topic sentence, then continues with one or more sentences for each star (reason) and dash (explanation). There is also a conclusion sentence. All sentences are written with good details and descriptions of the events in a logical sequence (well-organized).
- The student sticks to the topic (your favorite season) and didn't bring in other information that would detract from the story. The original student paper had legible handwriting.
- The student writer engages the reader and shows an independent, fluent writing style.