



**PAWS
Writing
Grade 6**

**Released Items
With Data**

2010

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Grade 6

Expressive



Fictional Narrative

Annotated Anchor Set

“Interesting Animal”



Grade 6

Released Writing Prompt

Interesting Animal

Most people find animals interesting. Imagine you could be your favorite animal for a day. Write a story about what you would do if you were that animal for a day.

Each paper you will score today was written to the prompt above.

Idea Development

Expressive
Fictional Narrative

A dringige that can
fly and breve fly and
some can swim

Idea Development score point 0

The student chooses a dragon (*dringige*), but demonstrates little understanding of how to use story elements to develop a fictional story.

If I were a panda for one whole day, I might live at the zoo, so I would eat bamboo for my food. I would also get to play with the other panda's and climb trees. At the end of the day I would rest and get up to eat. If anyone invaded my space when I did not want them to, they had better watch out. So if I was a panda for just one day, I think I would have lots of fun.

Idea Development score point 1

Although the student attempts to use story elements to develop a fictional narrative about a panda, ideas and relevant details are limited. (*I might live at the zoo eat bamboo for my food. . . . play with the other panda's*).

Hamster

One snowy white morning I crept out of bed to see that everything is in order except for one thing, something amazing was right next to my wheel. It looked like a big cheese box. My peek at the "box" frightened me a little, but not much.

Then my owner came, (his name is) he said, "Merry Christmas + (is my name) I got you a box so that you can play in it". Then it came to me, it was Christmas! "I will give you something else, but you will have to wait to see what it is".

His voice was ringing in my head all morning. What could he have gotten me? I stalked my food bowl and gorged some breakfast down. came to my cage and said "Time to clean your cage". The same

routine. Clean the cage. He put me in my ball and I rolled off.

It has been 1 hour. Most of the time it only takes 10 minutes or so. When I went to go see what was taking so long, I had gotten a brand new cage! said "Merry Christmas"

I was so excited. I never would have guessed he would have gotten me a new cage.

Idea Development score point 2

The student presents clear ideas about being a hamster for a day. The student demonstrates use of story elements such as suspense and dialogue to develop a fictional story ("I will give you something else but you will have to wait to see what it is". . . . What could he have gotten me?).

To be a cheetah for a day would be so wonderful and unbelievably exciting. Sprinting full speed at my prey, running them ragged until I could sink my lethal teeth into their throat. Eating voraciously, as to get my fill before those damned African lions force me from my kill. Spitting and hissing savagely, I retreated cautiously so not to get eaten myself. Trotting on a full stomach toward one ancient tree. Leaping and climbing to the tallest limb of the tree I lay down licking the dry blood of the gazelle from my sleek coat. Having realized I had eaten raw meat and entrails made me want toretch. Settling down still sick to my stomach I took my nap at midday when it is hottest. I woke again just before sunset as my stomach sent out waves of hunger. Stretching my limbs I jumped down in graceful form.

trotting from the tree I searched the lands for
for a herd of gazelles. Upon finding a small herd with
a straggler I waited for my chance. Not wanting to kill
again I stopped, only to have cheetah instincts take
control. I burst from the bushes fangs bared, the gazelles
leaped to their feet and left the straggler for dead.
Stopping I thought I don't want to kill him. The
instincts pushed me onward but once again I stopped, a
little voice inside my head told me not to do it.
I was transforming in body and mind back to a
human. Standing barefoot in an African plain I walked
to the nearest village on sore aching feet
and hitched a ride home. Thinking about it the
whole way home, I decided next time I would
be a Peregrin Falcon Diving at speeds over 200 mph.
Even though I wasn't to keen on the raw meat.

Idea Development score point 3

The student develops clear and focused ideas about being a cheetah for a day through the effective use of story elements (*Sprinting full speed at my prey Eating ravenously, as to get my fill before those darned African lions force me from my kill. . . . cheetah instincts take control*). The student uses descriptive details to enrich idea development (*Leaping and climbing to the tallest limb of the tree I lay down licking the dry blood of the gazelle from my sleek coat*).

Organization

Expressive
Fictional Narrative

The tiger will catch a animal.
The tiger will run like a cheetah.
The tiger will go home to my family to the cage.
The tiger will not come to school.
The tiger will teach my baby sister to
hunt.
The tiger will teach my baby sister how to
swim.

Organization score point 0

The response includes simple repetitive sentences with no evidence of a beginning, middle or ending. The response lacks topic sentences and transitions.

If I could be an animal for a couple days, I would be the largest lizard in the world call the "Komodo Dragon." I would be able to take down anything and when I do (I heard this on discovery channel) I could eat it and (This is what I herd) I would not be able to digest in a week! I would be the strongest in the Alstralein out back. It would be cool if I spoke thier langude would say "Hey man what up? want to go to the swim hole" to my friend another Komodo and he would reply "Shure it's a hot day and a nice day why not" and I would say "Raee you to the hole!" and off we go and we met some croc's on the way there and they challanged us and if we win we get water hole and if we lose they get the swim hole and the strongest lizard in the out back. There we were

surrounded by a lot of crocs. There were six of them and two of us and one I had fought against before and I remember I slashed him with my tail and he still has a scar from it and he wanted revenge. So the crocs forgot that we could slash them with a tail and we were the fastest lizards on ground and in water so we slash them with a tail and made a dash for the water hole we swam all day long and once we got out the crocs woke up. Yup that's right we noked the out with a tail. We were going home and on the way we got a bite to eat and we went to sleep. When we woke up those crocs brought some snakes but we knew they were not poisonous because the crocs had them in their mouths so we ate the snakes and the crocs said "sorry"

Organization score point 1

The response has a beginning but no ending. The response lacks consistent use of topic sentences and transitions. Similar ideas are grouped together without appropriate indentation (eating, swimming, fighting). Sentences lack variety (*I would*). The last sentence is a run-on.

I am an old Sloth and a good story teller. Today I will tell you a story about one day when I was young.

I woke up in the morning at 8:00 a.m. as usual, ate some leaves and decided to climb up my tree. 20 minutes later I arrived at my destination. 20 feet above where I started.

There was a hole in the tree that was my best friend Python's home.

Python eats mostly small animals and plants, he's very unique for his species. I was in no danger talking to him. "Hi Python, do you want to race to the edge of the rainforest?"

"Sure Sloth, that's my favorite game!" He replied. It's amazing I know, especially because the end of the jungle is a whopping 50 feet away!

"On your marks, get set, GO!" I screamed. I started jumping from tree to tree as Python slithered down to the ground. He had to slither down the tree, across the Forrest floor and back up the finishing tree. I was moving so fast, I could see my progress! When I finally reached the finish tree, I realized I beat Python! I only had to wait for a couple of seconds though before he finished.

"I got held up by an ant

colony that was crossing the trail," he explained. That made me laugh so hard I fell out of the tree. The climb back up was so tiring, I fell asleep 'till the next day which is a different story.

Organization score point 2

The response has a clear beginning, middle and ending (*I fell asleep 'till the next day which is a different story*). Sequential transitions are evident (*I woke up, I arrived, I started*). Similar ideas are grouped together and paragraphs include appropriate spacing. Sentences are varied and mostly correct (*There was a hole in the tree that was my best friend Python's home*).

ZAP! I woke up. "What was that" I yelled.
" [] Stop acting like a monkey" my mom yelled
up the stairs. "It must have been my imagination"
I told myself. I started to get dressed. When
I put on my socks I noticed my legs were
tiny. "Gosh I need to shave" I said out
loud, I thought nothing else of it so I
went downstairs for breakfast.

I started to eat breakfast when
my mom came into the kitchen. "AAAAHHHH"
she screamed. I just ignored it. "You're... You're"
she stuttered as she failed to finish her sentence.
"I'm a what" I shouted. When I spoke I
thought my words sounded a little strange.
"You're a monkey" my mom yelled out. "Cool!"
I shouted in monkey. I now knew what I was
speaking. I ran to look in the bathroom mirror
to see if it was for real. It was. "This is

sweet" I yelled. (Still speaking in monkey.)

While I was celebrating my mom was practically hyperventilating in the kitchen. "What are we going to do with you" she said hurriedly between rushed breaths. Finally, she calmed down. "I told I would go to Fort Collins with her" she said. "And you most certainly can't go to school like this." she said. "I guess you'll have to stay home" she said to me. "You'll be okay right" she asked. I rapidly shook my head yes.

As soon as my mom left, I was out the door. "Like she really expected me to stay home" I thought. First, I tried swinging through the trees. The first two times I fell, but on my third try I got the swing of it. Literally.

Next, I tried hanging by my tale. I would swing through the trees until I found a sturdy looking branch. The first branch broke. On my second try my grip wasn't tight enough. Then on my third try I got the hang of it.

At about noon I started to get hungry. So

I went home and ate all the bananas I could find. I ate all of them. Then I realized that my hands were looking normal. I ran and looked in the bathroom mirror. I was normal. I decided I should go to school. When I got to school I had to go to the office. When Mrs. [redacted] asked why I was tardy I replied, "Let's just say I was monkeying around."

Organization score point 3

The student develops an effective beginning, middle and ending ("*Let's just say I was monkeying around*"). The student uses varied transitions between paragraphs (*While I was celebrating As soon as my mom left. . . . Next, I tried hanging by my tale*). Sentences are varied and mostly correct (*I would swing through the trees until I found a sturdy looking branch. The first branch broke*).

Voice

Expressive
Fictional Narrative

In the writing prompt
it talks about how
people find animals
interesting.

It asks you
what you would do
if you could be your
favorite animal for a
day. If I could be a
dog for a day here's
what I would do, I
would wake up, play,
and play, and play, and
eat, and eat, and eat,
and sleep.

Voice score point 0

The narrative is flat and lifeless. The student uses a limited range of words and phrases (*and play and eat*).

Hello, my name is Marcey Sheep & I'm going to tell you what I'm going to do today. I wake up in the morning and wait for my owner to come and feed me. Then, when that is all done they would turn us sheep out in the pasture, and I go out there running and jumping. Then, I walk down to the creek, get a drink then jump in there & play around and oh its so much FUN!! Then, I think I will either stay in the pasture or go back to the barn, which ever one is more comfier & cozier. I would lay down and dry off. After that I am

going to take a nap. When I wake up it will be time for us to go and get fed dinner. After I'm done eating I will into the barn and again find myself a comfy place to lie down. I will dream of a new day coming and every sheep is so happy, and playful. Then, I will wake back up in the morning, wait for my owner to come and feed me and my fellow sheep. Then, I would do the same things over, and maybe do some

exploring. That would be fun!
Anyway, I need to go so I
hope you had FUN!! Because
it is great being a sheep!
BAAA! BAAA! BAAA! BAAA!

Voice score point 1

The narrative reveals limited personal voice (*dream of a new day . . . great being a sheep! BAAA! BAAA! BAAA! BAAA!*). While the student uses a few descriptive words (*pasture, comfier, cozier*), most word choice is simple and repetitious (*so much fun, that would be fun, hope you had fun*).

If I was going to be a animal I would like to be a deer. I like deer because they are a peaceful animal. I would run through the forest as fast as the wind, jumping logs, bushes, and etc. After I got done having fun I would prance down to the river to get a drink of refreshing water. Then I would mosey on over to a large plain of grass and grab myself a bite to eat. Through the day I would graze on the fresh, green, grass until I got tired. Then I would make myself a comfortable bed to rest for the whole one hour of sleep I got. After a while I would soon wake up to meet my friends to prance around the woods trying to pick up females.

I would soon meet and greet my lover,
and have a splended afternoon with her.
In a while it would soon be dark, and
wolves usually come out at that time.
I might try to camoflauge myself with
the woods without even moving. After
the wolves got finished prowling around
I would slowly drop to the ground and
get some good, old-fashioned sleep.

Voice score point 2

The narrative reveals the personal voice of a "peaceful animal" (*prance down to the river mosey on over meet and greet my lover*). The student uses descriptive words and phrases (*good, old-fashioned sleep; camoflauge; prowling around; splended afternoon; graze on the fresh, green, grass*).

"Crimony [redacted], it's that gator!" I heard that dumb crocodile dungee say. As I swam around in the murky, dark, green water, that stupid nerd kept on poking me with a stick. I couldn't take it any more. I lunged at the guy and barely missed that big old foot, but then again I was just a gator. Living in the San Diego Zoo if that makes a difference.

"I want out," I thought to myself as I watched [redacted] & [redacted] mess around with the other monkeys in their cage. I groaned as the crocodile "dungee" ran over with his bucket of fish and goop. He threw them in the cage and they landed on the rocks where I ate them all up. And that gave me an idea. Right when the "dungee" about closed the gates, I crept out and without him noticing, hobbled off. Another day in the life of a gator. Another day in the life of me, [redacted]

The kids were running, the birds were screeching, and the hippos were snorting their heads off. As all these happy things were going on, I didn't notice the box that I was suddenly enslaved under. Nothing to see and nothing to do was irritating as a truck, or I think a truck drove me back. Then again, the "dungee" put me back in my so called "pit" and left with a slam of the gate. Just another day in the life of a gator. A gator living in the San Diego Zoo.

Voice score point 3

The narrative consistently reveals an engaging voice and style ("Crimany groaned as the crocodile "dungee". . . . Another day in the life of a gator. . . . my so called "pit"). The student uses a variety of descriptive and original words and phrases (murkey, dark, green water; big old foot; hobbled off; snorting their heads off; suddenly enslaved under).

Conventions

Expressive
Fictional Narrative

Well it all started
being chased by a ugly
Giant all around the
jungle saying come
here little lizard I
have candy

Conventions score point 0

Although most words are spelled correctly, the response demonstrates incorrect use of grade-appropriate capitalization, punctuation and grammar throughout (*Well it All Started BeingChased By a ugly Giant*). The response has no end punctuation.

My name is _____ and I am a
Wild Wolf and I will tell you about
my day. First, I go out and see
exactly where I am at the
wood are around me then
see if it is hot or cold or
sunny or dark today is a
very good day it's cold
and dark out side so I can
run to keep myself warm.
Next, I go out and get some
food I hunt for it and
today in the wood I got
a rabbit and squirrel The squirrel
was small about a paw and
a half so that did not fill
me up so I went and got
a rabbit.

Finally, I top my day off with some fun I go out and try to find some other animals to go and enteract with like chasing each other and play hide-n-go seek I am completely positive that we will finde some thing to play. Then I run to get my Blood flowing and to keep warm. So that is what I would want to do if I were a wolf "animal" for a day just to get out of my boring life for once.

Conventions score point 1

The writer spells most common words correctly, but other grade-appropriate words incorrectly (*squrrel, enteract, finde, powand*). Some periods are missing. The response demonstrates limited control over grade-appropriate grammar and usage (*First, I go out and see exactly where I am at the wood are around me then see if it is hot or cold or sunny or dark today is a very good day*).

I was playing in the forest while my mother was hunting for mice or any other thing that was smaller than her, except cats. She thinks we are cats but we are foxes. All the sudden I hear footsteps, so what do I do? I start acting like a cat. I try to purr. I couldn't do it correct but it was still alright. They tried to pick me up. I struggled to get to my mother. I finally got loose and ran. I found my mother at the other side of the forest waiting with four

mice next to her. We ate and
were happy the rest of the
day.

Conventions score point 2

Most of the spelling is grade-appropriate. The student uses grade-appropriate capitalization and correct end punctuation. Commas are mostly correct. There are some errors in grade-appropriate grammar and usage (*I struggled to got to my mother*).

It was at least 10:00 pm. when I finally closed off, but as this happened it was like like I could feel the wind and hear it whistling in my ears as I ran through the meadow. When I looked down I saw the straw, dull, yellow grass and wondered where I was? At the park? No.

As I looked around I heard gun shots and saw birds fly! Gradually I turned and saw deer prancing for the trees and knew something was wrong! But when I dashed for the trees myself, everything seemed in slow motion!

While thinking to myself I thought "Why go to the trees when I could hide in the grass?"

But as I slowed I tripped over my own paw and my tail stuck straight up when I heard "There he is, get that fox!"

All in that same moment I realized they were after me! They must have seen my tail when I flipped over onto my side.

That was the time I knew I should have stayed by the rock. Silly me!

At the time the grouse men got at least 100 yds. away, as soon as I could... bam.... I shot off into the trees like a mad woman looking for food! He, He, He!

Meanwhile, (as they started shooting) I stopped at the edge of the forest and hid behind a tree. I, personally, had no clue what was going on, and wasn't coming out from behind the tree to figure it out!

All-of-a-sudden I heard my mom's voice "Hey you, why aren't you in bed?"
As a little grin caught my face I got up and went to go sleep in my (comfortable) bed.

Conventions score point 3

The student consistently uses grade appropriate spelling (*whistling, Gradually, thought, edge, motion*). The student demonstrates grade-appropriate capitalization and punctuation throughout ("*Why go to the trees when I could hide in the grass?*"). The response consistently demonstrates correct grammar and usage (*As I looked around I heard gun shots and saw birds fly! . . . They must have seen my tail when I flipped over onto my side*).