

Creative Writing Assessment Report

Assessor: Sumantha McMahon

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Student Name: Tanusha Sen

Date of Assessment: 21/07/21

Current Age and Year Group: Year 4 going into Year 5

Entrance Exam/s Aiming For: Buckinghamshire 11+

Dates Of Entrance Exam/s: Sept/Oct 2023

Assessment Breakdown

Task: To write a short story based on a first-line prompt.

Tanusha has a great imagination and is able to articulate her ideas clearly. I would have liked to have seen more powerful vocabulary to enhance the quality of her storytelling. She is excellent at judging when a new paragraph is needed. I liked that she attempted the use of different sentence types. This would be enhanced with a larger variety of punctuation.

Task: To write a newspaper article based on a picture prompt.

I can see that Tanusha is better with creative writing than non-fiction styles. Her newspaper article was imaginative, but she didn't quite grasp the format and structure that is expected. For instance, she did not include a headline, or start with a strong introduction.

Task: To write a story based on an existing passage.

Tanusha wrote an imaginative story that included plenty of dialogue. Her story was realistic based on what happens in the original passage, and she recognised the overall style of the original piece e.g. descriptive sentences, similes etc. However, she must work on being more accurate with the style of the original passage so that she can continue it. For instance, the passage is written from a first person perspective; Tanusha wrote from a third person perspective.



Overall Feedback

Strengths:

- Tanusha has an excellent grasp of fictional creative writing
- She understands how to use the common literary devices e.g. alliteration, similes, metaphors, personification
- Excellent story structure, with a clear understanding of the 'story mountain'

Weaknesses:

- Tanusha's vocabulary could be stronger; this would improve her writing according to the required style
- Non-fiction style writing needs practise; Tanusha struggled with amending her style according to audience and purpose
- An understanding/application of different sentence types would give her writing more texture

Recommended Support (At Home & Professional)

You mentioned that Tanusha is an avid reader which is reflected in her writing skills. She performed significantly better with her story-writing task than the newspaper article. In addition to practising the different styles, I would recommend her reading different styles. BBC Newsround is great for article-style writing, but the CGP Writing Rules for Key Stage 2 book provides an excellent guide for all styles.

Next Steps

At this stage, I think 1:1 tuition may be too intense for Tanusha. Since she is still in Year 4, the first step would be to help her master skills instead of focusing on exam papers.

My small group class would be better suited to her. Here, she'll be able to learn from her peers, while stretching her skills.

I'd suggest getting 1:1 tuition when Tanusha has more stamina, and is ready to study more intensely. If I continue teaching her, I'll give you an indication of when I think she's ready.

If you'd like to discuss this further, you're welcome to book a 15-minute call here.