Student Sample: Grade 2, Argument (Opinion)

This opinion piece about a work of literature was produced in class.

Owl Moon

When you go owling you don't need words, or worm or any thing, but hope. This is the booK of Owl Moon. This booK is written by Jane Yolen. I liKe that phrase Because The boy was happy becaus he got to go owling and hes been wonted to go owling for a long time and he finally got to go.

When other Kids are happy that maKes me happy. I liKe it Because it maKes me feel good Because you don't haf't to have words to go owling but you haf't to have hope to see an owl.

Annotation

The writer of this piece

- **introduces the topic (with some words from the book) and the title.**
    - *When you go owling you don't need words, or worm* (warm) *or any thing. but hope. This is* (from) *the book of Owl Moon.*
- **states an opinion about the book and supplies reasons to support the opinion.**
    - *I like that phrase Because The boy was happy becaus* (because) *he got to go owling and hes* (he's) *been wonted* (wanting) *to go owling for a long time and he finally got to go. When other kids are happy that makes me happy.*
- **uses linking words to connect opinion and reasons.**
    - *I like it* ***Because*** *it makes me feel good* ***Because*** *you don't haf't* (have) *to have words to go owling* ***but*** *you haf't to have hope to see an owl.*
- **provides a concluding statement.**
    - *I like it Because it makes me feel good Because you don't haf't* (have) *to have words to go owling but you haf't to have hope to see an owl.*
- **demonstrates growing command of the conventions of standard written English.**
    - This piece illustrates the writer's understanding that capital letters are used in a title, that the pronoun *I* should be capitalized, and that sentences should begin with a capital letter. The title of the book is underlined, and most words are spelled correctly. The use of the comma and the apostrophe is not consistent, but all sentences end with periods.

Student Sample: Grade 2, Narrative

This narrative was produced in class, and the writer likely received support from the teacher.

My first tooth is gone

I recall one winter night. I was four. My sister and I were running down the hall and something happend. It was my sister and I had run right into each other. Boy! did we cry. But not only did I cry, my tooth was bleeding. Then it felt funny. Then plop! There it was lying in my hand. So that night I put it under my pillow and in the morning I found something. It was not my tooth it was two dollars. So I ran down the hall, like I wasen't supposed to, and showed my mom and dad. They were suprised because when they lost teeth the only thing they got is 50¢.

Annotation

The writer of this piece

- **establishes a situation in time and place appropriate for what is to come.**
  - *I recall one winter night. I was four. My sister and I were running down the hall and something happend.*
- **recounts a well-elaborated sequence of events using temporal words to signal event order.**
  - *My sister and I were running down the hall **and** something happend. . . . **But** not only did I cry . . . **Then** it felt funny. **Then** plop! There it was lying in my hand.*
- **includes details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings.**
  - *Boy! did we cry.*
  - *Then it felt funny.*
  - *So I ran down the hall, like I wasen't supposed to, and showed my mom and dad*
- **provides a sense of closure.**
  - *They were suprised because when they lost teeth the only thing they got is 50¢.*
- **demonstrates growing command of the conventions of standard written English.**
  - This piece illustrates the writer's largely consistent use of beginning-of-sentence capitalization and end-of-sentence punctuation (both periods and exclamation points). The pronoun *I* is also capitalized consistently, and almost all the words are spelled correctly. The writer sets off a parenthetical element with commas and uses an apostrophe correctly.