

In Common: Effective Writing for All Students
Collection of All Student Work Samples, K-12

By The Vermont Writing Collaborative, with Student Achievement Partners and CCSSO

First Grade
On Demand Writing - Narrative Writing
Writing Samples

Grades 1-5, Prompt for Narrative Writing Common Core Standard W.CCR.3

Teacher Directions

Day 1 (45 minutes)

- Pass out the prompt. (If desired, a link to the image is available on page 3 of these directions.)
Ask the class what they see happening in the picture. Allow 3 minutes for students to turn and talk about what they see to a partner.
- Explain that each student is to write a story about what might be happening in this picture. Read the prompt under the picture together and clarify the directions.
- Provide lined paper (or a computer if your students are accustomed to composing on a keyboard) and give students the remainder of the period to write. The writing should be completed individually, without help.
- When the period is over, explain that students may finish writing and proofread tomorrow. Collect student work and materials.

Day 2 (45 minutes)

- Return student work and materials. Students may be given access to a dictionary, thesaurus, spell check, or grammar check.
- Allow the remainder of the period to finish writing and proofread.

* If you are having difficulty with the quality of the image, the painting can be found online at:

http://www.vintage-views.com/cat-holding-court-with-a-retriever_pointer-and-hound.html

Narrative Prompt



Write a story to go with this picture. Your story may be realistic or imaginative.

Remember that a good story:

- has a clear beginning , middle and end
- has a main character or characters
- uses dialogue and description

You will have two class periods to write your story. When you have finished, be sure to proofread and correct any mistakes.

File Name: N1P The London Castle

Narrative

Grade 1

On-Demand Writing - Uniform Prompt

The London Castle

once there Lived A cat and three Dogs. they LivD in a caseL in New yorK. and one Day they Find the King of New YorK. and there was a carc in the Door. and they jumPD out the Door. and raNaway to a caseL in London and they LiKeD it there it was very nis. there the king of London Feed them ever daY. and wased them ever week. and the Qunne cLeaND the cats Litter Box everweek. and one Day they FionD a Rat in the wall and the cat chast the rat all aFtoNooN. and that Day 22 Fox came to attK. But they DiDnt becasue the 3 Dog capt them out. the cat was vere haPPy JumPt uP and Down and that Day they haD a Graet Day. But they meet 4 more Dogs. one was Named Reese one was Named txox one was Named bob jr one was Named bob and they all Lovet to Play and sing and ResoL the END.

Uses temporal words to signal event order

Recounts two or more appropriately sequenced events

Includes some details regarding what happened

Provides some sense of closure

In this first-grade narrative, we hear about the adventures of a cat and three dogs. Temporal words (“once”, “one Day”, “ever daY”, “ever week”, “that Day”, “all aFtoNooN”) are used to signal order, and some details are provided (“they LiKeD it there it was very nis”). First experiments with telling stories, such as this one, may ramble a bit and lack a central focus; this writer does, however, show a firm understanding of the importance of establishing a basic chronology and including detail when recounting events.

File Name: N1P The London Castle

Narrative

Grade 1

Revised and Edited for Student Use

The London Castle

Once there lived a cat and three dogs. They lived in a castle in New York. And one day they found the king of New York. And there was a crack in the door. And they jumped out the door and ran away to a castle in London, and they liked it there. It was very nice. There, the king of London fed them every day and washed them every week, and the queen cleaned the cat's litter box every week.

One day, they found a rat in the wall, and the cat chased the rat all afternoon. That day, twenty-two foxes came to attack. But they didn't because the three dogs kept them out. The cat was very happy and jumped up and down, and that day they had a great day. They met four more dogs. One was named Reese, one was named Txox, one was named Bob Jr., and one was named Bob, and they all loved to play and sing and wrestle.

The End

File Name: N1P The London Castle

Narrative

Grade 1

On-Demand Writing - Uniform Prompt

The London Castle

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