

Student Sample: Grade 3, Narrative

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

When my Puppies Ran away
ONE night when the air was warm, my puppies were sleeping on the back porch. Me and my sisters were getting ready for bed. When I was in bed, I read a chapter from my Nancy Drew book. When I finished the chapter I turned out my lamp. I wouldn't go to sleep.
I went into the living room. I saw my mom getting ready to walk out the door. I asked "where are you going?" "Just for a drive" she replied. She had a worried expression on her face.
I knew something was wrong. I thought maybe if I went outside and played with my puppies, I would forget about mom's worried expression and go to sleep.
When I opened the back door I expected my puppies Maggie and Tucker to jump up on me. They didn't come at all. I called, they still didn't come.
Now I knew something was wrong. I went and woke up my dad, he said mom's got it under control. I thought mom had taken them to the vet because something was really wrong. Dad wouldn't tell me anything else. I went to my room and cried. That's all I remember about that.

night because I fell asleep.
The next day I still worried.
I worried all through school.
When I got home from me
and my mom made a snack for
sisters.
I asked my mom, "So were are
the puppies?" Her eyes started to
fill with tears as she answered
my question with 3 words, "I don't
know," she burst into tears. So did I.
She hugged me. "If we never find
them I am sure they will have
a good home."
I went outside and sat in moms
rocking chair. I cried some more.
Mom came out I got up. She
sat down and motioned me by waving
her hand to come and sit on her lap.
I went over and cried on her
shoulder.
After dinner that night we went
looking for them, we couldn't find them
at all.
My dad after work each day went
to the pound to see if they had
picked them up. They didn't at all.
I've got over them leaving because
mom says we can get 2 new puppies
very soon.

Annotation

The writer of this piece

- establishes a situation and introduces the narrator.
 - ONE night when the air was warm, my puppies were sleeping on the back porch. . . . I turned out my lamp. I wouldn't go to sleep. . . . I saw my mom getting ready to walk out the door. . . . She had a worried expression on her face. I knew something was wrong.
- organizes an event sequence that unfolds naturally and uses temporal words and phrases to signal event order.
 - When I opened The back door I expected my puppies Maggie and Tucker to jump up on me. They didn't come at all. I called, they still didn't come. Now I knew something was wrong.

- **uses dialogue and description of characters' actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.**
 - *I asked "where are you going"? "Just for a drive" she replied. She had a worried expression on her face.*
 - *I knew something was wrong.*
 - *I went to my room and cried.*
 - *The next day I still worried. I worried all through school.*
 - *Her eyes started to fill with tears as she answered my question with 3 words, "I don't know," she burst into tears. So did I. She hugged me.*
 - *I went outside and sat in moms rocking chair. I cried some more.*
 - *I've got over them leaving because mom says we can get 2 new puppies very soon.*
- **provides a sense of closure.**
 - *I've got over them leaving because mom says we can get 2 new puppies very soon.*
- **demonstrates growing command of the conventions of standard written English (with occasional errors that do not interfere materially with the underlying message).**