

## **Exemplar for Unit Standard**

### **English Language Level 3**

This exemplar supports assessment against:

Unit Standard 28068

Write a connected text on a familiar topic (EL)

An annotated exemplar is an extract of student evidence, with a commentary, to explain key aspects of the standard. It assists teachers to make assessment judgements at the grade boundaries.

New Zealand Qualifications Authority

To support internal assessment

	Grade Boundary: Low Excellence
1.	<p>For Excellence, the learner needs to write a connected text on a familiar topic to communicate ideas precisely and fluently.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring that content, structure and organisation of the written text are appropriate to the topic and text type</li> <li>• linking ideas effectively using a range of different cohesive devices</li> <li>• writing in a coherent and cohesive manner with minimal lapses</li> <li>• using an extended range of language features and vocabulary</li> <li>• conveying the meaning of the written text with minimal inaccuracies.</li> </ul> <p>The learner has written a profile of a school friend focusing on his interest in music.</p> <p>Content, structure and organisation are relevant to topic and text type. The profile begins with an introduction about the friend, followed by paragraphs about aspects of his musical background and abandonment of music as a career path. The conclusion affirms the likelihood of his success.</p> <p>The text is coherent throughout. Information is linked effectively, using a range of different cohesive devices (1), although the use of direct speech impacts on cohesion.</p> <p>An extended range of language features and vocabulary is used effectively. The learner has demonstrated control of simple and complex sentence structures (2). An extended range of past, present and future tense verb forms are used correctly, including passive voice and modals. Vocabulary choices are precise with some use of collocation (3).</p> <p>The meaning of the text is conveyed with minimal inaccuracies.</p> <p>For a more secure Excellence, the learner could use reported speech to improve cohesion and consistently use punctuation correctly, particularly with co-ordinating conjunctions.</p>

**(Extract only)**

Recently I interviewed my friend, a boy named I \_\_\_\_\_, who had been my classmate in high school. We both came to New Zealand to study last year. I interviewed him for his devotion to his music dream.

I \_\_\_\_\_ started his musical career by learning the piano at six years old. He practiced 3-4 hours a day. It was usual and normal to hear music when you went by his home. So I asked him: "Do you think it is obsessive to play the piano so long everyday?" But his answer was: "Playing the piano is my hobby not my obsession. I love music." When he was 13 years old, he had to pause his life of music because of his burdensome study load in his Chinese junior

- ① high school. Consequently, he stopped playing the piano for some time... Luckily, his father likes music as well, in particular rock music. I \_\_\_\_\_ was influenced by his father, so
- ② when he was a year 9 student, he began to learn electric guitar on his own. "So what is the process of that?" I asked. "How hard and unforgettable those days were. When my parents got to know my plan, they disagreed with my idea, instead I was forced to study. In order to catch up with other students, I had to make more effort on my study as well as learning electric guitar. There is a promise in my heart – I must make it!" And it is **persistent** and
- ③ grand of him to **stick to it** up to now. I can not help admiring his **persistence** and I feel proud of having this friend...

In January 2016, I \_\_\_\_\_ went abroad to continue taking further music courses at

- ① H \_\_\_\_\_ High School. However, due to the different music concepts from cultures, as well
- ② as the fact that he had to face the reality for the future, I \_\_\_\_\_ gave up his music learning as a career. Still he continues his exploration of music as his hobby for the rest of his life. After all, he is a man who loves instrument playing so much.

Next year I \_\_\_\_\_ is admitted to Canterbury University in Christchurch for advanced study. He will begin a new major – mechatronics. But he says he will keep on composing and learning music in his spare time. I hope he can not only work hard on his professional

- ② courses but also keep doing what he wants to do. It is certain that he will be an independent and successful musician.

- ② As one of his best friends, I don't think I \_\_\_\_\_'s efforts will be in vain for he is so industrious and distinguished. In others' view, maybe it is impossible for him to be a superstar in the music field, but I believe he will be totally successful in the future. I am sure
- ③ he can make it. I am looking forward to **witnessing his great achievements** in music.

484 words

	Grade Boundary: High Merit
2.	<p>For Merit, the learner needs to write a connected text on a familiar topic to communicate ideas effectively.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring that the content, structure and organisation of the written text are appropriate to the topic and text type</li> <li>• writing in a coherent and cohesive manner with minor lapses</li> <li>• using a wide range of language features and vocabulary</li> <li>• conveying the meaning of the written text with minor inaccuracies.</li> </ul> <p>The learner has written a profile of a class member based on an interview.</p> <p>Content, structure and organisation are appropriate to topic and text type. The profile begins with an introduction about the class member, followed by paragraphs about his interests, aspects of his school life in New Zealand and his future plans.</p> <p>The text is coherent throughout. Information within paragraphs is linked using a range of cohesive devices, including conjunctions, some connectives, and pronoun reference (1). The first sentences of some paragraphs have loose pronoun reference.</p> <p>The learner communicates ideas effectively using a wide range of language features and vocabulary. Control of simple, compound and a range of complex sentences is demonstrated (2). A wide range of present, past and future tense verb forms are used (3), usually correctly.</p> <p>The meaning of the text is conveyed, with minor inaccuracies only.</p> <p>To reach Excellence, the learner could use cohesive devices to link paragraphs, avoiding loose pronoun reference, as well as showing an extended range of language features and vocabulary.</p>

**(Extract only)**

My partner's name is Y\_\_\_\_\_. He is a very quiet boy and he is 16 years old at the moment. He comes from South Korea.... He has been in New Zealand for 9 months and he has 3 family members (not including his grandparents)...

Y\_\_\_\_\_ likes to play badminton and he usually plays it with his best friend. He studies video editing in his lesiure time and he likes to practice using computer programs for his  
① future dream. He also likes to eat spicy foods, such as kimchi, but he doesn't bring any spicy  
③ foods to school for lunch time, because his school bag is already heavy enough and there  
will be no space for a chilli sauce. The best memory in his life is when he went to a Kpop  
concert in South Korea and the best film he has ever seen is Intern. I watched a lot of  
movies in the past, but I still haven't heard of a movie called Intern. Perhaps I should watch  
it, because it deserved Y\_\_\_\_\_ 's appreciation...

① The reason he came to New Zealand was to develop his English speaking skills and he  
② already has been to 16 different countries in the world. When I heard that, it really shocked  
me. Sixteen different countries means that he visited a country at least each year, because  
he is only sixteen. Also, his English speaking skill has made a really big jump by comparison  
with when he just came to New Zealand.

He doesn't talk much in the class, but we all know he is always on track. He seems not to  
like to chat with others if it's not necessary. This is like me in the past. Even though  
② sometimes he seems very quiet, I believe that is not his true personality. I hope he will open  
③ his mouth and talk with others in the future, because that will be a really good chance to  
make friends and it will give benefits his future life.

② He doesn't want to stay in New Zealand after he finishes high school because he just came  
here to develop his language. He really missed his parents when he first came to New  
Zealand and he does mind the single sex school because he went to a mixed school when  
① he was in Korea. He wants to do economic work after he finishes college. This is a good aim  
in my opinion.

360 words

	Grade Boundary: Low Merit
3.	<p>For Merit, the learner needs to write a connected text on a familiar topic to communicate ideas effectively.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring that the content, structure and organisation of the written text are appropriate to the topic and text type</li> <li>• writing in a coherent and cohesive manner with minor lapses</li> <li>• using a wide range of language features and vocabulary</li> <li>• conveying the meaning of the written text with minor inaccuracies.</li> </ul> <p>The student has written a profile of a school friend focusing on his interest in rugby.</p> <p>Content, structure and organisation are appropriate to topic and text type. The description begins with a statement about the friend's rugby achievement, followed by paragraphs elaborating on this achievement, his school subjects, his motivation for coming to New Zealand, and his future plans. The topic sentence of each paragraph is clear.</p> <p>The text is coherent. Ideas are linked within paragraphs, using a range of cohesive devices, including conjunctions (1). There is loose pronoun reference at the beginning of paragraphs.</p> <p>The learner communicates ideas effectively using a sufficiently wide range of language features and vocabulary. Control of simple, compound and complex sentences is demonstrated (2). A wide range of verb forms are used correctly, including present perfect and present continuous tenses and passive voice (3).</p> <p>The meaning of the text is conveyed, with minor inaccuracies only.</p> <p>For a more secure Merit, the learner could use a greater range of cohesive devices, particularly between paragraphs, avoiding loose pronoun reference, and use more complex sentence structures.</p>

**(Extract only)**

- ① It's not easy to make starting fifteen for 1<sup>st</sup> XV at T \_\_\_\_\_ Boys' High School but the year 13 student, R \_\_\_\_\_, from Japan has done it. He plays halfback which is a very important position in rugby and he made starting fifteen for one of the strongest rugby schools in NZ.
- ② Since he came to T \_\_\_\_\_ Boys' High School in Year 10, he has been selected for U15A, 2<sup>nd</sup> XV, NZ H \_\_\_\_\_ U17 teams. He is an outstanding rugby player who is keen to play for Japan national team in the future.
- ② His favourite subject is Sports Studies of course, and he likes to enjoy playing sports with his friends. He takes ESOL and is working to improve his English skills. His English skill has significantly improved according to his friends and teachers. He is enjoying his school life with many friends.
- ① He came to New Zealand to improve his rugby skills and to learn English. It was a hard decision for a 15 year-old boy to decide and come to another country and start the whole different life but 'it was the best decision ever' he says. Now he lives with his mum, dad, and younger sister. His family is very supportive to him in terms of rugby and they come to watch his games all the time...
- ③ He is planning to go to W \_\_\_\_\_ Institute after school and keep playing rugby for the club team. His dream is to play for Japan and after his career he wants to become a rugby coach to support the young players.

260 words

	Grade Boundary: High Achieved
4.	<p>For Achieved, the learner needs to write a connected text on a familiar topic to communicate ideas.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring that the content, structure and organisation of the written text are generally appropriate to the topic and text type</li> <li>• writing in a generally coherent and cohesive manner</li> <li>• using a range of language features and vocabulary</li> <li>• generally conveying the meaning of the written text, although errors and inaccuracies may occur</li> </ul> <p>The learner has written a description of her father.</p> <p>Content, structure and organisation are appropriate to the topic and text type. The description begins with an introduction about her father, followed by paragraphs about his physical appearance, personality, hobbies and relationships. The topic sentence of each paragraph is clear, and the final paragraph includes a conclusion.</p> <p>Cohesive devices are used. Ideas are linked within paragraphs using a range of connectives, conjunctions and pronoun reference (1).</p> <p>The learner communicates ideas using a range of language features and vocabulary appropriate to text type. Control of simple, compound and a limited range of complex sentences is demonstrated (2). Verb forms, predominantly simple present tense, are used correctly. A wide range of vocabulary is used correctly, notably adjectives and noun phrases (3).</p> <p>The meaning of the text is conveyed, with no repeated errors and minor inaccuracies only.</p> <p>To reach Merit, the learner could use a wider range of cohesive devices and complex sentence structures.</p>

**(Extract only)**

Y\_\_\_\_\_, who is my father, is a special person to me. My father was born on 27<sup>th</sup> of November 1971. He was born in Korea, and he is 48 years old.

My father is a handsome man. He has a really small, and round face. Y\_\_\_\_\_ also, has  
 ③ clear skin, and doesn't have many wrinkles. My father has big brown eyes, long eyelashes  
 and with crew cut. He has some grey hair, and I really like that because it makes him look  
 good. My father usually wears a black suit because of his business job. Also, he likes  
 ② wearing shirts because he really likes neat and modern style. He is average build with  
 ③ muscles, and 175cm tall. He always looks full of energy and happy.

Y\_\_\_\_\_ is a intelligent, kind and diligent person. My father is a really smart person because  
 ① he can answer anything. Especially, chemistry, math and languages. Hence, my father really  
 wants me to learn more languages. He is a really kind person. Y\_\_\_\_\_ helps my mother  
 such as cooking and housework. Also, he always respects my little sister and my opinion...

② He enjoys lots of hobbies. My father likes sport, so he exercises in the gym everyday. One of  
 his favourite hobbies is reading books. Therefore, our house living room doesn't have a TV.  
 Also, my father enjoys studying and travelling all around the world with my mom. Y\_\_\_\_\_  
 ① always says to me "Don't be afraid of anything". Therefore, I am not afraid of challenging  
 anything. I have learnt so much self-worth from him.

My father lives in Korea with my beautiful mom. He is a romantic man. My father loves my  
 mom so much, and remembers anniversaries. Also, he gives gifts to my mother all the time.  
 ② When I really miss Korea, my father encourages me and says to me "You can do it". I really  
 want to marry someone like him because he is a really good father, and works very hard for  
 my family. My father is waiting for me until I graduate my high-school and university, and  
 ② return to Korea. I love my father, and he is my role-model.

357 words

	Grade Boundary: Low Achieved
5.	<p>For Achieved, the learner needs to write a connected text on a familiar topic to communicate ideas.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring that the content, structure and organisation of the written text are generally appropriate to the topic and text type</li> <li>• writing in a generally coherent and cohesive manner</li> <li>• using a range of language features and vocabulary</li> <li>• generally conveying the meaning of the text although errors and inaccuracies may occur.</li> </ul> <p>The learner has written a profile of a school friend.</p> <p>Content and structure and organisation are generally appropriate to topic and text type. The profile begins with a brief introduction about the friend, followed by paragraphs about his relationship with his grandparents, his hobbies and his sensitivity. Topic sentences are generally clear, but the final paragraph is very short and lacks a conclusion.</p> <p>A limited range of cohesive devices are used to link ideas within paragraphs, including simple conjunctions and pronoun reference (1).</p> <p>The learner communicates ideas using a range of language features and vocabulary. Control of simple, compound and a limited range of complex sentences is demonstrated (2). A range of present and past tense verb forms are used correctly, including present continuous and present perfect (3).</p> <p>The meaning of the text is conveyed. There are no repeated errors and very few inaccuracies.</p> <p>For a more secure Achieved, the learner could include a conclusion, link ideas between paragraphs and use more complex sentence structures.</p>

**(Extract only)**

C\_\_\_\_\_ is 18 years old. He is studying in New Zealand now...

C\_\_\_\_\_ lives with his extended family. His grandmother and father are the same age. His grandmother is a kind woman and he really likes his grandfather's cooking. **When he was a child his grandfather cooked for him everyday.** His grandfather makes Chinese food. On every Christmas and New Year he makes some special representative food. **His grandfather is a very independent man and he has taught C\_\_\_\_\_ to be like this too.** **His grandmother likes travel so they have been to Japan and New Zealand and Singapore and China.**

C\_\_\_\_\_ likes to play basketball and to speak Japanese. **He is very good at basketball because he started playing basketball when he was 8 years old. But before he started basketball he broke his arm when he was playing football so he started basketball.** Sometimes he practices basketball after school with friends. **He has so many Japanese friends so he can speak some Japanese and he can understand when Japanese people talk. He learns Japanese from Japanese friends.** C\_\_\_\_\_ has learnt this language simply **by listening to songs and watching movies as well as interacting with Japanese speakers.** He loves Japanese girls and Japanese food. C\_\_\_\_\_ thinks Japanese girls are very cute. His favourite food is sushi. He visited Japan on December with his Aunties.

C\_\_\_\_\_ can be quite sensitive. **He often worries about his friends and what they think about him,** He cries at sad movies. He is always polite to his teachers.

255 words

	Grade Boundary: High Not Achieved
6.	<p>For Achieved, the learner needs to write a connected text on a familiar topic to communicate ideas.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring that the content, structure and organisation of the written text are generally appropriate to the topic and text type</li> <li>• writing in a generally coherent and cohesive manner</li> <li>• using a range of language features and vocabulary</li> <li>• generally conveying the meaning of the text although errors and inaccuracies may occur.</li> </ul> <p>The learner has written a description of a school friend.</p> <p>Content, structure and organisation are generally appropriate to topic and text type. The description begins with some background on the writer's relationship with the friend, followed by paragraphs describing her appearance, personality and future plans. The topic sentence of each paragraph is clear.</p> <p>Cohesive devices are used. Ideas are linked within paragraphs using connectives, conjunctions and pronoun reference, usually correctly (1).</p> <p>A range of language features and vocabulary appropriate to the text type is used to communicate ideas. Simple and compound sentences predominate, with a limited range of complex sentences (2). A range of present and past tense verb forms is used (3) with some errors in subject-verb agreement. A range of appropriate vocabulary is used, including adjectives and noun phrases (4), with some inaccuracies.</p> <p>Meaning is obscured by errors and inaccuracies in the sentences about cell phone use and the friend's career aspirations.</p> <p>To reach Achieved, the learner could make fewer errors and inaccuracies which obscure meaning, and use more complex sentence structures.</p>

**(Extract only)**

I have a lot of important people in my life. N\_\_\_\_\_ is one of them. She was born on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2000 in Japan. We were childhood friends. She moved to our hometown. Our houses are very close, so we could meet easily with both families. That's why, our families have good relationship.

N\_\_\_\_\_ is a typical young lady with a slim build. Also, she has brown wavy hair and big black eyes. Her face is small and round. Her hair use to be black. However, after the graduation ceremony, she changed her hair colour to light brown. I think it suits her.

She is a cheerful and playful person. There is always a lot of people around her. Also, they are laugh all the time. Her smile make everyone happy. She is a playful person as well. She come up to a lot of new things without our each cell phone. That's why, I respect her. However, she is forgetful person a little. Actually, everyone including her know it, so she carries a notepad to improve it. I think it is very good way to remember important things...

From this April, she live herself in Osaka. She want to be a pastry. N\_\_\_\_\_ is very good at cooking. Also, her imagination is really good. She use to bring some sweets to my house, then we ate them together. It was delicious, so I enjoyed every time. Especially, the chocolate cake is super good. I am sure she will be a wonderful pastry in the future. I can not wait meet with her.

271 words