# Spots

**NEMP Access Task**

**TREND TASK**

*Approach:* Station                                        *Level:* Year 4 and year 8
*Focus:*     Inventing appropriate dialogue to fit picture.
*Resources:* Picture in answer book.

*Questions/instructions:*

Poor Ben. When he woke up, he was covered in red spots.

Look at the picture.

What do you think everyone in this picture might be saying or thinking?

Write inside the balloons to tell the story.



| Relevance of what characters are saying: | | % responses | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2002 ('98) **year 4** | 2002 ('98) **year 8** |
| Boy: | strong | 66 (57) | 66 (72) |
| | moderate | 28 (36) | 28 (27) |
| | weak | 6 (7) | 6 (1) |
| Father: | strong | 63 (63) | 68 (75) |
| | moderate | 33 (34) | 27 (19) |
| | weak | 4 (3) | 5 (6) |
| Mother: | strong | 58 (64) | 67 (74) |
| | moderate | 37 (34) | 28 (23) |
| | weak | 5 (2) | 5 (3) |
| Cat: | strong | 53 (52) | 53 (67) |
| | moderate | 34 (37) | 28 (22) |
| | weak | 13 (11) | 19 (11) |
| **Interactiveness of comments:** | | | |
| | very high | 11 (3) | 23 (24) |
| | moderate | 20 (14) | 27 (25) |
| | a little | 41 (49) | 36 (32) |
| | none | 28 (34) | 14 (19) |

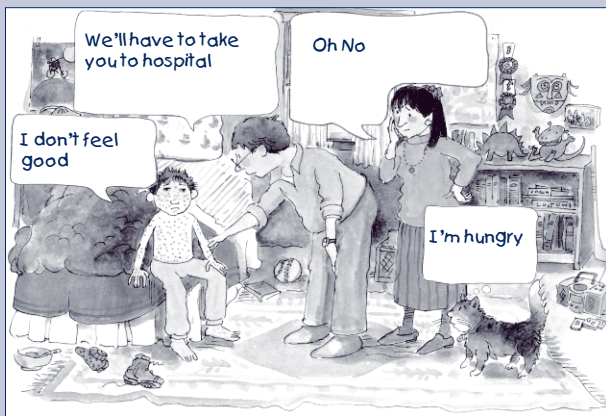| Entertainment: [flair, humour] | | % responses | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2002 ('98) **year 4** | 2002 ('98) **year 8** |
| | very entertaining | 0 (0) | 3 (6) |
| | quite entertaining | 9 (8) | 13 (18) |
| | some entertaining features | 33 (25) | 39 (33) |
| | no entertainment | 58 (67) | 45 (43) |
| **Following conventions of speech/thought bubbles:** | | | |
| | throughout | 71 (72) | 66 (76) |
| | most *(3 of 4)* | 17 (14) | 21 (21) |
| | some *(1–2 of 4)* | 8 (11) | 10 (2) |
| | none | 4 (3) | 3 (1) |
| **Total score:** | 15–17 | 8 (2) | 17 (20) |
| | 12–14 | 31 (24) | 33 (37) |
| | 9–11 | 33 (48) | 29 (26) |
| | 6–8 | 21 (21) | 13 (15) |
| | 0–5 | 7 (5) | 8 (2) |

*Commentary:*

Year 8 students performed only slightly better than year 4 students, mainly in the interactiveness of their comments. There was little change between 1998 and 2002.

**YEAR 4 – HIGH RANGE:**



**YEAR 4 – MID RANGE:**



**YEAR 8 – HIGH RANGE:**



**YEAR 8 – MID RANGE:**