	Trend Task:		Octopus
Ī	Approach:	Station	Year: 4 & 8
	Focus:	Completing a story in speech bubbles	
	Resources:	Pictures in recording book	

## Questions / instructions:

The pictures on the next pages show the story of a family at the beach. They are collecting mussels. First, have a look at each part of the story. Tell the story by writing in the speech bubbles what the people are saying.



		% response 2006 ('02)	
How many individual speed fitted with pictures? (11 in to		year 4	year 8
	all or most	85 (84)	95 (93)
about	half of them	12 (12)	5 (6)
	few or none	3 (4)	0 (1)
Extent to which series of			
speeches told the story:	very well	32 (13)	47 (39)
	quite well	50 (52)	45 (48)
	slightly	16 (33)	8 (12)
	not at all	2 (2)	0 (1)
Extent to which series of			
speeches sounded like an interactive conversation:	high	60 (36)	73 (57)
	moderate	33 (50)	25 (35)
	low	7 (14)	2 (8)
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Writing conventions followed:	consistently	8 (0)	23 (23)
about	half of time	25 (22)	37 (30)
rar	ely or never	67 (78)	40 (47)
Total score	: 8–9	18 (5)	40 (34)
	6–7	45 (36)	40 (36)
	4–5	26 (42)	17 (23)
	0–3	11 (17)	3 (7)

[Mum's Octopus: Learning Media, Wellington, New Zealand; (1999)]

## Subgroup Analyses:



## Commentary:

Most students met the core expressive requirements of this task very well or quite well but fewer followed writing conventions well. There was substantial improvement from 2002 to 2006 for year 4 students and a little improvement for year 8 students. Girls and Pasifika students were prominent among the high scores, especially at year 8 level. Pasifika students had a wide range of performance.