

## Imagination

### TREND TASK

**Approach:** Independent

**Focus:** Imaginative writing.

**Resources:** 7 pictures.

**Level:** Year 4 and year 8

#### Questions/instructions:

In this activity I want you to choose one picture to write a short story about. It is to be a story where you use your imagination and your own interesting ideas. You will have 15 minutes to write. If there are words you can't spell, just write them as best you can. The main thing is your story and using your imagination.

You can choose a picture now. If necessary, more than one person can use the same picture.

**Each student chooses one picture to write about.**

Remember, you have 15 minutes. I'll let you know when you have 5 minutes left for writing. Write a short story using your imagination and your own interesting ideas.

**Allow 15 minutes. Tell students when they have 5 minutes remaining.**

#### Interest and originality:

(impact, humour, ability to capture and hold reader's attention)

	% responses	
	2002 ('98)	2002 ('98)
	year 4	year 8
very high level	2 (4)	25 (29)
good level	27 (34)	44 (47)
some attempt	51 (45)	27 (20)
little or none	20 (17)	4 (4)

#### Coherence of story/plot:

(introduction, characters, conflict, climax, resolution)

very well developed and sequenced	4 (7)	24 (31)
good development, missing some elements	33 (32)	50 (49)
limited development	42 (51)	23 (16)
not coherent/developed	21 (10)	3 (4)

#### Characterisation:

(Is character believable?  
Is behaviour explained?)

excellent	1 (2)	16 (18)
good	15 (23)	37 (44)
moderate	43 (44)	34 (31)
poor	41 (31)	13 (7)

#### Following writing conventions:

(tense correct, person/verb agreement, etc.)

always or almost always	25 (26)	47 (57)
at least 50% of time	58 (62)	48 (40)
weak	17 (12)	5 (3)
<b>Richness of vocabulary:</b>		
strong	6 (3)	34 (39)
moderate	56 (64)	53 (50)
weak	38 (33)	13 (11)

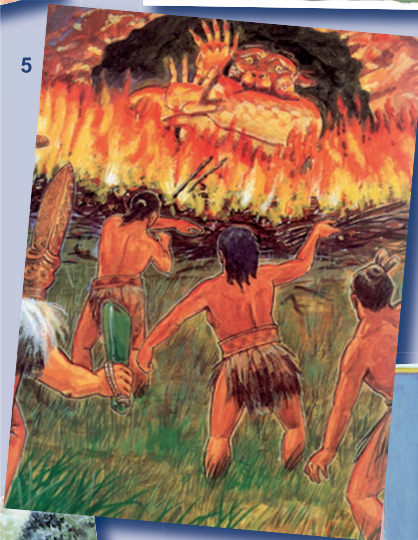
#### Spelling:

> 97% correct	16 (16)	49 (54)
90-97% correct	26 (33)	33 (31)
80-90% correct	38 (41)	16 (14)
< 80% correct	20 (10)	2 (1)

<b>Total score:</b>	11-13	1 (2)	26 (29)
	8-10	18 (25)	33 (42)
	6-7	21 (21)	18 (12)
	3-5	37 (37)	19 (26)
	0-2	23 (15)	4 (3)

#### Commentary:

This task shows strong progress between year 4 and year 8. On average, 23 percent more year 8 than year 4 students scored in the highest category of the six components. For both year 4 and year 8 students, there appeared to be a small but consistent decline in scores between 1998 and 2002.



[Exemplars on following two pages]



## Imagination: continued

### YEAR 4– HIGH RANGE:

#### PICTURE 6:

One morning Warren sent his son Alex out into the woods to find some fire wood. Alex wondered and wondered until he came to a clearing. "Ar," said Alex, "my favourite spot." Alex pushed his way through the trees. "Arr! Alex screamed there was a tanighifar sitting in the middle. The beast turned its head. "Hello" said the tanighifar. "What so we have here" Alex trembled with as the tanighifar approached him. "Hello" Alex muttered slowly. "My name is Te ra". "I come from a far of island".

#### PICTURE 1:

Life on Mars find

"Sir sir we've found something very interesting a big rock that can glow blue in space." Said Jim

"Try to crack it open then send it to the lab. We need to find out what makes it glow" Said the space commander.

"Yes sir

Later

"Almost done yes I've done it! There's something alive what is it? What is it doing? AH!!!!!!!"

"Jim wake up!" Said space commander urgently

"What happened" said Jim

"We heard your scream and now the creature that you found is locked up. We threatened it with ray guns." But the scientists found out something it's a herbivore! That means there were once plants on Mars or on some other planet.

"How did you find that out, said Jim

"Scientist fed it some grass, said space commander shortly.

#### PICTURE 2:

Once there was a bunch of men who wanted to sail-a-sea. So they got a boat and headed off to sea. At first the sea was nice and calm but after a few days the sea got rough. It was so rough that their boat broke in to lots of pieces. Some men drowned [drowned], some survived [survived] but one man got pulled away from his mates. It was raining and he had no food to drink. Then some people off an island saw him and carried him to their master. he said "what is this". They didn't know but they gave him food and drinks. The man thanked them and never went on a boat again.

### YEAR 4– MID RANGE:

#### PICTURE 6:

Once upon a time there lived a boy. He met this Tanypha. The boy and the Tanypha became friends. The boy met the Tanypha every day. The boy's name was Timy. He loved the Tanypha. They were best of friends then they could ever get. Timy had a ride on the Tanypha every day and the Tanypha can also fly. The Tanypha had hips of drawing on him a he was very big his eyes were green his mouth was purple.

#### PICTURE 1:

One day some men set off into space to explore. They didn't realise they had gone past Pluto and planet X they landed on a planet that was nothing like Earth. It had a lot of different features. It had trees that were blue and streams that were black. They got out and wandered away from their spaceship and ran into a village with aliens. They thought they should name the planet something before they went down to the village. They did that and went to the village the men asked the guards if they could go through the gate and they asked what planet they were from and they said Earth and the aliens started shooting at them they started running away. When they got back to the spaceship they got some good guns and started back to the village they spied on the villagers until they thought it was the

#### PICTURE 3:

Once upon a time there lived a lovely girl called Lisa. She was the prettiest girl in New Zealand. One day her family was being mean so she ran away! Her favourite flower was called tenie-weed so she went to a flower place to buy some tenie-weed. She had saved up her money and took that and she had \$55.55c. She spent \$5.05 at the flower place and then went to the grocery and brought some lollies, meat and vegetables. She had to give the lady at the check-out \$10.50c. Then off she went to a warm place under a tree. She had brought some blankets and two mattresses and a table which was sooo light and small along with a teddy bear, a lamp and a dove [duvet]. After seven nights she left her stuff there and went exploring the land. She found a tree bush thing and walked along a bit more and found a tenie-weed bush. She picked 18 bunches!!! a lot a? Well she really did like tenie-weed. She heard her family calling her than she quickly ran away!!! She didn't want to go with her family but she and lived happily ever after the END!!!!

## YEAR 8 – HIGH RANGE:

## PICTURE 4:

Once upon a time there was a beautiful sun princess. Everything in her world was yellow, gold or other bright colours. One day, when she was making a dress for her horse, Sun Glow, all the animals in her village were running towards the golden river. The golden river was a place of protection, where no one could get hurt. When the princess got there she saw her father, the sun god (king). He father told her that he was very sad because his throne was in danger of being taken over by his brother the moon god (king). His brother had always envied him and now he would do anything for his place as the sun god, he would even kill. The animals had run to the golden River to comfort the king, the golden river was slowly turning blue - blue with sadness. When the princess heard this news she burst into tears, finally when she went home she swore she would help her father. She made a spell so her horse could fly, she also made a golden amulet for her father so he would have the power of the golden river. The horse, sunglow, flew her father to the land of no return, in the 'middle' kingdom. The middle kingdom was good and evil, it was known as Earth.

The king realised that he had left his daughter unprotected and flew back. He found her locked in a chamber with a bowl of rice and all her lovely hair CUT OFF! All her animal friends were with her, all except sun glow.

The moon god had gone to Earth to capture the sun king or God.

When the sun god got into the chamber, he found his daughter was dead. He sadly buried her and got his weapons ready.

He would do anything to kill his own brother for the life of his daughter.

He found his brother standing in the fighting chamber, on the opposite side of himself. They were staring at each other, what would happen next? To be continued...

## YEAR 8 – MID RANGE:

## PICTURE 2:

There was a boy named Campbell he was on ship going from India to New Zealand. Suddenly at night the ship started rocking he was thinking it must be a storm he looked out side and the swells were getting bigger and bigger. Then he heard crashing that is when he got scared then a message came over a speaker saying please put your life jacket on so he did. By then he was really scared. Then came another one that said Please come out on the deck and hope on the life Boats then crash the ship started sinking there was a rush he got pushed over board he landed flat on a door but it was so cold he could not feel it the the ship disappeared there were so many people in the water a wave came up behind him and pushed him away from every one then he saw a ship come right at him he tried to get away where could get on it. then it hit him he was under it then there was the motor crunch. He was gone The end

PICTURE 3: Sarah woke up on a Saturday morning. She stretched and got out of her bed. She wondered what she was going to do today. She wasn't sure so she decided to have a look around. She was very close to the beach so she thought she would enjoy to explore it. She found all sorts of things, shells, feather and some interesting shaped rocks. While she was walking back home, she came across a bush with the most interestingly beautiful flowers. She thought they would be a perfect gift for her mum. She knelt down and started picking some for her to arrange in a bouquet. All of a sudden she heard someone calling her name. It was her friends. she finished picking the flower and ran over to them. She had just been there but she didn't mind, as the sun was beaming down on her and she longed for the cool water. They had a great time splashing, and playing games. It became the end of the day and they decided to head back home

## PICTURE 6:

Last night I dreamt the most spectacular dream, that I have dreamt in years.. the grass was green, the clouds were blue and there I was riding on the most biggest taniwha I have seen. Its eyes were bright green and yellow and its wings were a brown and purple colour.

As I mounted its back I felt a huge gust of wind flow through my hair as I left the ground and flew higher and higher, swooping in and out of the clouds, until it started to sink down and down until I suddenly felt a wave of heat and a surroundness of pitch blackness as I got off I smelt a hint

of dampness. The place filled with light, as as I slowly adjusted to the light I saw an amazing sight, and that was when I realised that I was in a cave. The Taniwha lead me deeper and deeper in the cave until I came to a pool of what looked like lava. The Taniwha then lead me around the pool to the other side and we then went on to another passage. On and On we went and then an amazing sight hit my eyes. All around me were jewels and coins and everything that you could think of that glistened and as I went to pick up one of the jewels I woke up in a daze.