

WRITING SUB-TEST – TEST BOOKLET

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

You must write your answer for the Writing sub-test in the **Writing Answer Booklet**.

You must **NOT** remove OET material from the test room.

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: SPEECH PATHOLOGY

TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES

WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

Notes:

Assume that today's date is 10 February 2019.

You are assessing a 6-year-old male who has childhood apraxia of speech (CAS).

PATIENT DETAILS:

Name: Connor Mills

DOB: 04 Mar 2012

Social history: Lives with parents and one sister (born 2003)

Medical history: Birth uneventful
Childhood coughs & colds
Full vaccinations

Onset: Noticeable since 2015

General background: Verbal skills – always fairly good, but unpredictable according to mother
Primary school staff recommended assessment by Speech Pathologist, as difficulties more evident
Sometimes manages difficult words but later cannot manage same words. Talking slow to begin
During preschool years dyspraxia become more evident. Preschool teacher found him hard to understand, requested hearing/vision tests. Parents ignored due to overzealous preschool teacher. Reluctantly had hearing tested 2016

Physical: Normal healthy, active, bright boy. Getting on well with peers at school
Participating in all activities
Coordination poor. Described by family as clumsy
Oral capabilities – chewing, sucking, blowing difficulties

Hearing tests: 2016 NAD

Sight tests: Nil

10 February 2019

On examination

Speech: Decreased overall intelligibility
Inconsistent articulation errors, esp with blends. Oral groping evident Increased errors with longer words: 3+ syllables
No dysarthria

Receptive language: Comprehension – above average
No problems socialising at school or with reading or maths Mild delay with spelling & writing

Expressive language: Vocabulary – average
Syntax – good
Narrative – reasonable to good

Cognitive: NAD

Speech pathology therapy

Recommendations: Regular sessions – wkly to spend 1:1 time with Connor. Reassured parent & child regular sessions will help with disorder.

Suggested family, school support & encouragement. Discussed speech pathology sessions wkly for 3 mths

?referral to Occupational Therapist

Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter to the referring doctor, Dr M. Walton, 10 North Road, Newtown. Give your assessment of the patient's issues and your recommendations.

In your answer:

- Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences
- Do not use note form
- Use letter format

The body of the letter should be approximately 180–200 words.

Any answers recorded here will not be marked.

BLANK

Occupational English Test**WRITING SUB-TEST: SPEECH PATHOLOGY
SAMPLE RESPONSE: LETTER**

Dr M. Walton
10 North Road
Newtown

10 February 2019

Dear Dr Walton,

Re: Connor Mills
DOB: 04/03/12

I appreciate your referral of six-year-old Connor Mills, who exhibits signs of childhood apraxia of speech with no obvious cause.

Speech evaluation showed decreased intelligibility characterised by inconsistent articulation errors and increasing errors with words longer than 3 syllables. Oral groping was also evident. Receptive and expressive language were within normal limits; however, he is having some milder difficulties with writing and spelling at school.

There is no evidence of dysarthria or a motor disorder, but he is described as clumsy by his family who are understandably concerned. Connor is developing very well socially and academically. I plan to provide weekly one-on-one sessions with Connor for 3 months in order to further assess him and provide therapy. I have reassured his parents that although it may take time to show improvements in his speech, his participation in frequent sessions should prove beneficial, particularly with strong support and encouragement from his family and teachers.

An Occupational Therapy assessment may also be warranted in this case, given his coordination and writing difficulties. I would appreciate your opinion in this matter.

If you require any further information or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Speech Pathologist