

## 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.

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**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