

Student Sample B

Grade 3 Opinion Writing Performance Task: Honey Bees

SCORES AND COMMENTARY

- **Bold** words and phrases are taken from the Student Language Writing Scoring Guide: Grades 3-5 for Informative/Explanatory and Argument Writing and Research Projects.
- *Italicized* words are direct quotes from the student writing.

Ideas and Content: 3

The writing demonstrates progress toward meeting grade level writing skills (score of 3). **An opinion is clearly stated and reasons are given** (score of 4). *I think the problem will be solved if we can take the honey bees away before they make more honey bees.* **The writer includes some information about the topic** (score of 3). ... *bee's build nests in building's, houses and sheds. If they are in large groups they can make lots of damage to our property.* **The writing is limited** (score of 2). The preponderance of evidence supports a score of 3.

Organization: 3

The introduction is underdeveloped (score of 3) *There are lot of bees in the area but there are problems.* **The concluding statement...may be too short** (score of 3). *That's how I think we can solve the problems.* **Paragraph breaks are missing** (score of 2). The preponderance of evidence supports a score of 3.

Voice: 4

Parts may be lively, sincere (*And that would hurt because one little sting really hurts but imagine one hundred times the much of one sting that would really hurt.*), **exciting, or honest** (score of 4). *I think the problem can be solved if we limit the bees in everybody yards to about 30-45.* **The writer seems interested in the topic.**

Word Choice: 3

Many words (e.g., ...*they can make lots of damage, ...take the honey bees before they make more honey bees*) **are not specific** (score of 3). **The writing includes some content vocabulary words** (e.g., *nests, sheds, property, attack, sting*) **about the topic** (score of 3).

Sentence Fluency: 3

Parts of the writing are easy to read out loud (*If they are in large groups they can make lots of damage to our property.*), **but other parts** (*Another problems is that if there is lots of honey bees they can attack you all at once.*) **are difficult. Some sentence beginnings are the same; some are different.**

Conventions: 3

Some errors in punctuation (score of 3) (e.g., *problems'...building's...one little sting really hurts but imagine*) **Common words** (e.g., *problems, houses, sheds, attack,*

imagine, limit) **are spelled correctly** (score of 4). **Grammar is incorrect** (*if there is lots of honey bees... but imagine one hundred times the much of one sting*) **in places** (score of 3). The preponderance of evidence supports the score of 3.

Use of Sources: 3

The writer uses some information about the topic from mainly one source (source 3). **Source is accurately identified** (score of 4). The writer is not required to provide a list of sources on this task. The preponderance of evidence supports the score of 3.