

**New Paltz Central School District  
Fourth/Fifth Grade  
Writing**

**April Exemplar Papers**

**Level 4**

Exemplar #1 – 4<sup>+</sup> (4-4-4-4-4)

- Strong language
- Essentially error free

Exemplar #2 – 4 (4-4-3-4-4)

- Paragraph structure is inconsistent

Exemplar #3 – 4<sup>-</sup> (4-4-4-3-3)

- Basic vocabulary
- Some spelling errors
- Capitals needed

**Level 3**

Exemplar #4 – 3<sup>+</sup> (3-3-4-3-4)

- No connections
- Not a lot of elaboration
- Good use of transitions
- Basic vocabulary

Exemplar #5 – 3 (3-3-3/2 – 3-4)

- Complete, but lacks connections
- Uses some relevant examples
- Loses focus at times
- Basic vocabulary

Exemplar #6 – 3 (3-3-3-3-3)

- Details support story
- Focused on a small moment
- Basic vocabulary

**Level 2**

Exemplar #7 – 2<sup>+</sup> (2-2/3-2-2-3)

- Begins task; loses focus

- Details are not always relevant
- Simple vocabulary

**Exemplar #8 – 2 (2-2-3-2-2)**

- Not complete
- Very few details
- Sequenced with some transitions
- Little voice; basic vocabulary
- Some errors in punctuation; poor sentence structure

**Level 1**

**Exemplar #9 – 1 (2-1-1-1-1)**

- Begins to address topic
- No detail or elaboration
- Lack of conventions interferes with understanding

**Exemplar #10 – 1 (1-1-1-1-1)**

- Minimal detail
- No structure
- Minimal vocabulary use
- Lack of conventions interferes with understanding

**Exemplar #11 – 1 (1-1-1-1-1)**

- Grammar, spelling, and punctuation greatly interfere with understanding

4/14/04

## Writing Prompt

I was 9 years old and in fourth grade when I went with my family to the Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa, Florida.

I knew we would see some great things. I couldn't wait to get started!

I ran down the path to the next exhibit. I heard birds chirping and whistling, and the sun shone brightly on my face. I stood on tiptoe and read the sign.

"Lemurs. Red ruffed lemurs, collared lemurs, and ringtailed lemurs." I peered into the exhibit. There was a wall of gray rock, and a trickling stream. By the stream there were tall, waving reeds. Four ringtailed lemurs lounged about in the reeds. It was a pretty sight, but I decided to get my mom, aunt, and great grandma and find something better. But suddenly, something caught my eye. A tiny creature, the size of a large mouse, bounded around the rock. It looked like a miniature ringtailed lemur, very miniature, with a sweet face and wide eyes. It scampered through the grass and started to swing playfully on the reeds.

"Mom! Great Harriet! Aunt Alice!" I ran to my family. "There's a baby ringtailed lemur!"

My brother Noah rushed up behind me. "There's two!" He shouted. He looked as excited as I felt.

"C'mon!" I said. Everyone followed me and Noah. We all crowded round the exhibit, watching the babies. One was swinging from the vines, the other was riding on its

mother's back. Everyone oohed and aahed, even my great grandma. We were all so excited. As we watched the lemurs play, I felt happier than I had since I got on the plane for Florida. I knew my mom and dad and Noah felt the same way. I smiled at my family, and each of them smiled back. And that lit up the rest of my day.

## Writing Prompt

April 14, 2009  
Lenape

Once I went to the Merrittime Aquarium in Norwalk Connecticut. I went with my mom, and my sister. When we got there, we bought tickets and first went to see the seals. We walked down a long hallway to get to that exhibit.

It was 11:45 so the seals were about to get fed.

The exhibit was like a huge deep swimming pool, except all but one small area was surrounded by tall glass and right in the middle of the "tank" was a giant rock fixture. Swimming in the tank were six seals. Some looked as if they were asleep, lying at the bottom, floating a bit, with their eyes closed tightly. But that changed when one of the workers came down a slim bridge <sup>and</sup> onto the giant rock.

She was holding a bucket in one hand and a microphone <sup>was</sup> on her

face.

She sat on the rock and told us facts. For a minute, I looked around. There were people everywhere!

She fed them fish and had them do tricks. Two of their names were Razle and Suzie. She said that Suzie was one of the oldest seals on the planet. She <sup>she said</sup> was in her late thirtys!

One of the tricks they did was jump up into the air then crash back down. Razle did most of the tricks.

Then she asked if anyone had any questions. Some of the seals had white eyes so that's what was wandering. Even though I didn't ask it someone else did, and she said, "That is because they have a disease called Cataracts. So their eyes don't work well." I had a great time watching the seals play.

and I found out a lot of facts about them.

There were lots of things at the aquarium, but the seals were probably my favorites!

4/15/09

## APRIL FOOLS DAY

On April 1st (April fools day,) I walked into room 4-102, which is my class room. I unpacked and took out my weekly sheet. I looked at the black board where the homework is written.

My mouth dropped open when I saw the home work. What the—! I yelled.

on the board was about 6 lines of what we had for home work. Some of them looked like stuff we hadn't been taught at all!

Then I remembered what day it was. April fools day!! I figured it had to be an April fool written by Mrs. Sinfaroso. Just after a minute it didn't seem like that.

all 6 lines were still there. Then Mrs. Sinfaroso walked up to the board, erased three of them, (the ones we weren't taught) and said, "April fools"!

I jumped up and said, "I knew it!"

"Oh poo" I said, looking at my weekly sheet. I had copied it all down and now I had to erase most of it! Jest as well, I decided. At least I didn't have all that home work!



4/14/09

## My Mother's Birthday

Birthdays are very fun. On my mother's most recent birthday my brother and I had no school. Sadly, my father had to work.

To start the day my mom slept in. When she woke the phone was ringing like crazy. Everyone wanted to wish her a happy birthday. Me and my brother went down stairs while she was talking and ate. After everyone called my brother and I sat with her and talked, also telling her happy birthday.

Later that day my father surprised us by coming home for lunch. We all chose to go to "The Egg's Nest" to eat. "The Egg's Nest" is a small restaurant that is my mother's favorite. Once we were done, my father had to go back to work. So we said our good-byes and he left.

After lunch my mother, my brother and I went shopping in the Water Street Market. After my mother had gotten what she wanted we went home and relaxed.

When dinner came, my father brought

home a pizza and cake. After cake  
my mother opened cards. She laughed at my  
brother's and almost cried at mine. At the  
end of the day, I think my mother  
loved that birthday.

4/15/09

# THE EASTER HUNT

April 12, 2009 at my mom's house (New Paltz, New York) on easter vacation me, my sister, my brother, and my mom just got home from New Jersey. When we got home we found our easter presents on our kitchen table. The next day our mom takes us to our dad's. When we get home our dad wasn't here so we had to wait for him to look for our easter presents. While our dad was gone we secretly started looking for our easter presents we looked in our rooms, the 2 bathrooms, in the shower, the kitchen, the cabinets, under our beds, under the couch, in our mom's and dad's room while our mom was taking a shower, but we found

nothing. Right when we were about to go in the basement our dad got home. A couple minutes after my dad got home we went in the basement. My brother found my sisters, so my dad said she can find his, but instead she found mine and I found my brothers.



4/14/09

One day I was taken too my Cousins house. At their house there is a swimming pool I was about the age of four. My Cousins Tommy and Ryan where the ages of eight and twelve. Tommy, Ryan, and I where playing with water guns. I was having alot of fun, though I was backing up durring the the battle, I had backed up so far that I fell into the swimming pool. I remember slowly drifting down, my eyes slowly closing suddenly Tommy jumped down and took me out of the water. Ever since, Tommy has been the coolest guy ever!

4-14-09

## Writing Prompt

The first day I got chipy I come home from school one day and I walk in the door and found a bird on the table - Her name was chipy. She was a bright yellow cocotile. My dad brought her out of her cage. I gave her a kiss on her wing. It was really soft. She almost pecked my cheeks. But her peck does not hurt now. Chipy does not like fingers.

That day when I sang she whistles. She really loves my singing. Now today when I sing she wants to come out of her cage.

The next day she was so quiet but when I got home chipy whistled like crazy. So that means she loves me.

## Star Wars

My dad and I were playing Star Wars: the Force Unleashed. I was Qui Gon Jinn and he was Darth Maul. I swung my lightsaber at him and I hit him but then the Force pushed me out of the way. Then I used Force Lightning and then Maelstrom which is a big explosion of energy. Then we used Force Lightning game. I then threw my lightsaber at him. Then I became full power which is called FORCE UNLEASHED. I then used 3 Maelstroms followed by Force Lightning. Then I won. My dad did okay but not good enough.

April 15, 2009

On Ester Vacation me and my brother had a Ester Egg hunt. After my cosent came over to play and I asct him did you find alot of Eggs out side? He said No, the Ester bunny dose not hide Ester Eggs out in my back yard. He hid Ester Eggs inside of my house not outside. I said I did not know that Branden. Branden is my cosent. Then my friend came over to play with me but my cosent was over so I went inside to tell my mom that Ashley was over to play but Branden was over. My mom told me to tell Ashley that my mom said that we all half to play together. So we all played a game we all like to play catching frogs and fish. I have a small stream in the back of my yard and the front of my yard. We catch big and small frogs. It is really cool.



4/14/04

On Thanksgiving last year me and  
my dad's side of the family had thank  
sgiving at my uncle's house.  
We had ham, mashed potatoes, and  
turkey. The desserts were chocolate  
cupcakes, ~~chocolate~~ chocolate  
cookies and pretzels.

4/14/09

I went outside  
and got my friends,  
and one of my sisters,  
to build a lemon stand.

We made a sign and a  
casery thing. It was fun.

We made about \$45.85.

We had fun. I am going  
to make two of them.

When to help? (all these two

numbers mom/256-9194

dad's cell 1629-4312