6th Grade Narrative Responses #1

Prompt: Tell a story of a time when you or someone you know had to show bravery or courage.

One day i was very very very very very BORED. I literally had nothing to do, so has my me being me i did something very stupid.

So i decided to go to an unfinished house and mess around in it. Later on i found an bucket off paint. Yup that's right i just told you i found an bucket off paint. What did i do with that bucket off paint. I throw the OPEN bucket of paint at the walls off the unfinished house. I also started jumping in the dumpster that was outside off the house.

later on i was messing around some more. And then the cops came around. Oops why DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT. crap the cops come out off of the cop car and walk up to me and ask what i was doing this is where i had courage. Too tell he cops what i was doing.

Doesn't address the prompt

Shows some organization of events but doesn't expand on them.

Transition words but no variety

No resolution nor conclusion to this experience.

The voice in this piece is strong but it is weakened by the lack of skills to make it effective.

Anchor Text: Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad, Journeys Text, Lesson 24

Beginning			Mic	End	Language/ Conventions		
Establish a real or imagined situation. (W.6.3.a)	Introduce a narrator and/or characters (W.6.3.a)	Organized the events into an appropriately paced sequence. (W.6.3.a)	Use dialogue and/or descriptions (character's actions, thoughts, and feelings) (W.6.3.b)	Used precise words and phrases (sensory language and relevant details) (W.6.3.d)	Used transitional words and phrases to signal shifts in time frame and setting (W.6.3.c)	I have written a related conclusion. (W.6.3.e)	I have used conventions of standard English (e.g. capitalization, punctuation, and spelling) (L.6.2)
1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1

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WHEN I WAS BRAVE

One day, me and my friend preslie were in Lake Powell, and we wanted to go Cliff jumping.

We found a good spot to jump, but we were both super scared. I'm not sure why were, because we had jumped off of the top of our house boat just fine, but we just were.

We did rock, paper, scissors on who was going to have to go first, because we were both just standing there. I ended up being the one who had to go.

I was so scared! I gathered up all of my courage! But it all slipped out. I couldn't do it! But then I told myself that I only live ONCE! I just decided to go, because I probably would never get a chance to do it again!

I did it.

I jumped off of the red, rockey, cliff into the brisk water. I floated back to the surface of the water. I looked up to the cliff that I just jumped off of. It looked so high up! I did it! I jumped off of a cliff!

Establishes the scene

Doesn't expound on how scared" felt or looked like.

Good organization of events

No transition words nor sensory language.

Conclusion is adequate, but could be expanded to make it more interesting.

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3	3	3	2	2	1	2	2

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Spelling Bee Butterflies

One day in school, Mrs. Davies announced something HUGE!
She said, "The whole 5th and 6th grade are doing class spelling bees. The two winners of the class spelling bee will go on to the school spelling bee." Almost everyone in the class groaned. I have always wanted to participate in a spelling bee! Mrs. Davies passed around the list. I looked at the front and thought, "These are easy!" But then I looked at the back. There were semi-easy words like lavender. But there were also weird words I have never heard of! There was quid pro quo, cartouches, and other wacko words.

Almost all of March I studied really hard! I would write the words down almost every day and make my parents test me. The day before I studied for about an hour with Britney. We would say words to each other and we would spell them back. I was super nervous! But Britney's dancing while she was making hot chocolate helped the butterflies fly away. The morning of the spelling bee I was taking a quick lookover of the words I had been practicing all month. When I got to school, my friends and I quizzed each other on a couple words. Then came the spelling bee. We took our chairs and put them in a circle. Already I could tell some people were not as prepared. I waited in anticipation.

Luckily we got two chances. I missed one word because I was so nervous! Soon, everyone started dropping out. There was 10. Then there was 5. Then there was 3. Bryson, Sage and me. We got to lavender and Bryson dropped out. I couldn't believe it! Sage and I had won! Luckily I was brave and all the studying paid off! Sage and I got to go to the school spelling bee. The same thing happened there. But I was brave and studied and I won!

Set the different scenes

good detail

Organization is clear

Very skimpy and rushed conclusion and never related back to the big idea of being courageous.

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Brace for Braces

Have you ever had to get your teeth sanded with a power tool at the orthodontist? This happened at the start of the year. I had to do this when I was getting braces. I was scared to get braces and had to be really brave. I will always remember the day of January 31.

It just started out as a normal kind of day. I got up, dressed, and went to my kitchen. That was when I remembered I had to get braces! I immediately was overwhelmed with feelings of fear. I could feel my heart starting to race. I was scared because I hate anything related to teeth. I hate the dentist and the hygienist or anyone who touches my teeth for that matter. I was also scared because my friends who have previously had braces told me braces hurt and that they are annoying. I continued sulking for about 30 minutes and then it was time to go. I reluctantly got in the car and my mom and I went to the orthodontist. When I first got there, they laid me back and my palms were sweating. Next they started sanding some of my teeth with a power tool. While that felt obnoxious, it didn't hurt. Then they put on my braces using a really strong glue. The smell attacked my nose and made it difficult to breathe. I could even taste the horrible fumes from it. This was the scariest part. You have to be able to breathe to live! Just as I felt the first trickle of sweat reaching my ear, it was over Just like that! Luckily, everything went smoothly and nothing went wrong.

In this experience I had to be brave and believe in the orthodontist and be brave. Harriet Tubman did the same. She had to be brave and believe that she would get to the north. In her prayer she says, "Lord, I'm going to hold steady onto you. You've got to see me through." This scary orthodontist experience has taught me to be brave.

Clever title

Sets up the situation

Sensory language and vivid descriptions.

References the text

Adequate conclusion but doesn't show how they are related to any deeper understanding.

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