Supplemental Material S1. Example of hand-coding analysis conducted on a first draft.

This is a scanned copy of an example of hand-coding analysis procedures conducted on a first draft used in the current study. Slashes are placed at the end of each sentence along with the number of clauses. Underlined words indicate verb phrases used to delineate clauses. Circled words indicate transcription errors including spelling and grammar. This particular sample did not include any punctuation or paragraphing errors which would be highlighted.

This example clearly illustrates the coder's process where errors in segmentation were self-corrected by coder and not all verb phrases were similarly delineated. As an example, there were instances where the coder underlined words adjacent to the verb that were not part of the verb phrase, and other instances where the coder underlined only the auxiliary verb and not the adjacent finite or present progressive verbs. This did not impact the counting of clauses and shows the flexibility and ease of this approach for writing sample analysis.

To further demonstrate the flexibility of this approach to writing sample analyses, the reader is directed to the two instances where "Washington Monument" was used by the writer. For the current study, proper nouns were excluded from analyses so any error associated with the word "Washington" would be ignored, including the missing letter in the second instance and the lack of capitalization of the word "monument". Notably, capitalization errors were not accounted for in the current study; however, a sixth grade child is expected to follow capitalization rules for proper nouns so a clinician may flag this type of error for later intervention. The two misspellings of the word "monument" would have been counted as one unique spelling error and is something that could easily be targeted in treatment.

One time I was walking to school on a beautiful day and backpack flu off with me! I didn't want to go to school so I went to see the Washington momument. I got to tutched the top of the Washingto momumet and it was sharp. Also, in school we were learning about Washington D.C. so I got a lot of infow. Then I went to see my shore house in Cape Cod. I haven't seen my shore house in a century. The funny thing is that we called it the White House because the entier house is white. But I never new that flying wings could goo go that fast, because the plane it tuck a long time. The gas tank was emty so I had to land it on the gas staytion. My mom gave me money for my lunch but I had to use it. Then I flu home. So I told my mom about my adven sures, but my she mom did not bleare me. In my heat I new I did it and I had a fantastic time.