Develop an analytical argument

A Level 9093 - child language analysis

Name: _____ Date: _____

Plan before you begin

Check the audience, purpose and required length. Organise your ideas, write or speak, then check meaning and accuracy.
Example: A clear paragraph has one main idea with useful supporting detail.
Write 190-230 words analysing the child's grammatical choices and the caregiver's role. Use exact evidence, relevant concepts and a clear statement of limitations.
දී ඇති උපදෙස් අනුව ඔබේම පිළිතුර ලියන්න.

Try it yourself

1. Write your analysis.

Observe before drawing a conclusion

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Understand the idea

Read once for the main idea. Read again to find the detail or evidence needed for each answer.
Example: A question beginning Why needs a reason supported by the text.
Study this fictional child-adult exchange as a short language-analysis exercise. Describe the evidence accurately, consider a possible process and explain a limit. A few utterances cannot establish a child's age, full competence or one certain developmental explanation.
ළමා කථනයේ දක්නට ඇති සාක්ෂි විමසන්න. කෙටි සංවාදයකින් සම්පූර්ණ නිගමන නොගන්න.

Adult: What did you do at the park?
Child: I goed on the swing.
Adult: You went on the swing?
Child: Yes. Then I went home.
Adult: Who came with you?
Child: Me and Nila. We played.
This invented extract provides only a small sample from one conversational context.
දරුවා එකම සංවාදයේ ක්‍රියාපද ආකාර කිහිපයක් භාවිත කරන අතර වැඩිහිටියා එක් වරදක් නැවත නිවැරදිව කියයි.

Try it yourself

1. Identify the past-tense forms in the child's speech. What variation does the extract show?

2. Explain one possible account of "goed", then state what further evidence would be useful.

3. Analyse the adult's reformulation and the child's next turn. Explain why the extract does not by itself prove permanent learning.