

Progress Monitoring Probe 7

Jerome's Artwork

It began with idle doodling in the margins of his notes during class, which might have seemed to an observer like a nervous habit or a sign of boredom. At any rate, Jerome seized every opportunity to draw. Sometimes he used pencil, sometimes pen. He experimented with different styles of drawing by imitating lines and shapes from artworks he admired.

Jerome had to be secretive about drawing, because he didn't want his teacher, Ms. Holt, to catch him and assume that he wasn't paying attention to her lectures about pronoun antecedents or Civil War generals. When Ms. Holt's back was turned, he drew, and when she was across the room helping a student, he drew. As far as Jerome knew, his drawing had gone unnoticed by Ms. Holt.

One afternoon, Jerome was nearly out of the classroom when Ms. Holt called his name. "We have something to discuss," she said. Jerome turned around and walked to her desk, resigned to the fact that at last, he was going to get in trouble for drawing during class.

"I see that you like to draw," Ms. Holt began. "And by your responses in class and your work on tests, I can tell that drawing doesn't interfere with your learning. So I'm not going to ask you to stop." Jerome was relieved, but he could tell that Ms. Holt wasn't finished with the subject.

Ms. Holt explained that the school wanted to create a permanent mural for the main hallway and that she had recommended to the principal that Jerome design the mural. "We'd like for you to submit two or three suggestions for the mural," she said.

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23
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112
124
128
138
149
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Jerome's Artwork (Continued)

When Jerome left school that day, he was excited about the prospect of putting his drawing ability to good use. He worked all weekend on suggestions for the mural and turned them in on Monday. That day, as he listened to Ms. Holt's English lesson while sketching in the margins of his paper, Ms. Holt looked at Jerome briefly and smiled. Jerome smiled back and then went back to his drawing.

Total words: _____ — errors: _____ = words correct: _____

286
297
309
320
332
342
346

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