



Inspired by [Ted](#) by Tony DiTerlizzi and WritingFix's [Unique Imaginary Friends](#) writing lesson, fourth grader McKayla wrote the following story. As she drafted and revised her story, McKayla worked especially hard on her **idea development** and **word choice** skills. Read this story with a friend and decide where McKayla showed her best idea development skills, and where she showed her best word choice skills. Be prepared to share your ideas with the whole class.

Grimble

An original story by McKayla, fourth grade writer



When I woke up from a sleep that held me in bed all night, I found my imaginary friend, Grimble, waiting for me in the kitchen. My parents weren't up yet, so Grimble suggested that we make coffee for my parents to show how much we appreciate them.

"What a great idea. Let's do it!" I exclaimed. And so we did.

I found the coffee beans while Grimble poured the water into the coffee maker. The slimy green-like skin covering his body glistened. We finished making the coffee.

As soon as I poured the cups of coffee, I heard him beg. "Oh, can I have a sip of that mouthwatering coffee?" Grimble asked.

"No, the coffee will make you too hyper, and I can't let that happen. You'll wake up my parents," I said.

"I promise I'll control myself. Please! Please! Please!" said the creature who stood as tall as my knee.

"Fine! But only a small sip."

Grimble started to shake. *Oh no!* I thought. *What have I done?* He flew around, bouncing off the walls; even worse, my parents were getting up. Grimble turned invisible. My parents fell on their backs as Grimble knocked them over. I was told to clean up the mess and also scolded. I was grounded for a month and Grimble left because he was too much trouble.