Task Prompt: Students will explore habits, strategies, and attitudes of narrative poetry writers. Each student will use imitation strategies as he or she plans and drafts a narrative poem, based on an event from his or her life.

Victory
after “Mail Call” by Adrienne Jaeger

I wait…
For the starter to go off,
And for the really rowdy race.
I listen…
As the proud parents pace
Waiting for the swimmers to get going

Finally…
8 fierce competitors dive
Into the icy pool
I do 6 dolphin kicks
And break the surface
I start to fly-
Both a daunting and taxing stroke.

I think…
As I take my breaths,
Of cool, crisp, fresh air
And for a moment
Am glad the wall is here
I survived to halfway

I gaze…
The last 50 yards are here
Waiting to tire me out,
All of the butterfly.

Then…
I look at my competition,
Falling behind
I understand that I may win.

I smell victory coming towards me

After the race I see I dropped time
This has been the best meet yet.
My hard work showed me differently,
Than the day I said I couldn’t.

Well, I was wrong.
This is an example of an advanced 8th grade narrative poem. The writer uses and gives credit to a mentor text which guided her structure and overall content of her writing. This writer particularly borrows the idea from the mentor text that through the experience that is being described (swimming race) she has a realization (not knowing that she could do it). The writer enhances the reader's experience by including punctuation which guides the reader to slow and pause in the events as they unfold in the story. This is a purposeful move by the writer which enhances this narrative as advanced writing.