

## Section 1:

### #1: The opening paragraph

Strengths: a) Your vivid description of the attic creates a mysterious atmosphere. b) The introduction of the map adds an intriguing element to the story.

Weaknesses: Inconsistent pacing Your writing in this section rushes through several events without allowing the reader to fully engage with each moment. For instance, you quickly move from Jack following a snake to discovering a pirate map, without giving enough time for tension to build or for the reader to connect with Jack's emotions. The rapid succession of events like "Jack looked above him", "Jack climbed it", and "Jack gathered up the courage" feels rushed and doesn't allow for a deep exploration of the setting or Jack's character.

Exemplar: "Jack's eyes followed the dark, eerie serpent as it slithered across the carpet, leading him to an unexpected dead end. Looking up, he discovered a hidden attic, its presence both intriguing and slightly unnerving. With a mix of curiosity and trepidation, Jack reached for the nearby ladder, each step creaking as he ascended into the unknown."

### #2: The portal scene

Strengths: a) The introduction of magical elements adds excitement to the story. b) Your description of the sea creates a vivid image for the reader.

Weaknesses: Overuse of adjectives Your writing in this section relies heavily on adjectives, which can overwhelm the reader and diminish the impact of your descriptions. Phrases like "ferocious tigers", "infuriated waves", and "blood curling sight" are examples of where the adjectives feel forced rather than enhancing the narrative. The overuse of descriptors can make the writing feel cluttered and less effective in conveying the intensity of the scene.

Exemplar: "The waves crashed against their small vessel, tossing it about like a toy. Jack and his grandfather clung to the sides, their hearts pounding as they faced the fury of the open sea."

### #3: The treasure discovery

Strengths: a) The inclusion of native animals adds depth to the island setting. b) The treasure description creates a sense of wonder and excitement.

Weaknesses: Lack of emotional depth Your writing in this section focuses more on the events and less on the characters' emotional journeys. While you mention that Jack and the pirate were "gleeful" upon finding the treasure, there's little exploration of their feelings throughout the adventure or their reactions to the challenges they face. This lack of emotional depth makes it harder for readers to connect with the characters and fully engage with the story.

Exemplar: "As Jack's fingers brushed against the cool metal of the chest, a rush of emotions flooded through him. Joy at their success mingled with a bittersweet sadness as he thought of his grandfather. With trembling hands, he lifted the lid, revealing the glittering contents within."

Actionable task: Rewrite the opening paragraph, focusing on slowing down the pacing. Take time to describe Jack's surroundings and emotions as he explores the attic, building suspense before the discovery of the map.

Overall score: 42/50

## Section 2: Revision Guidelines

### The Pirate's Wealthy Loot

#1 Jack meandered around his grandfather's house. It was colossal, yet dull. On the carpet, he saw a dark, eerie serpent slithering across it. Curiously, he followed the snake until they hit a dead end. Jack looked above him to see a remarkable attic. Fortunately, there were ladders ~~laying~~ [lying] near the attic and Jack climbed ~~#~~ [them]. He was anxious ~~abut~~ [about] what he would discover up there. Maybe there were fatal animals that could eradicate Jack. But Jack was bold so he squinted through a hole and saw fragile boxes, withered plants and disintegrated light bulbs. Jack gathered up the courage to explore the attic so he crept into the attic and strolled around tranquilly. Unfortunately, something wriggled up poor Jack's leg and it was a devious spider. It had eight hairy legs with a humongous thorax. Its venom was oozing down ~~the~~ its teeth. Jack shut his eyes frantically, just like someone would shut a window from a blizzard. Jack trampled on the spider and unfastened his eyes. He witnessed an affluent chest. He opened the chest and found a glorious map. There was an 'X' mark on the map which had to mean there was some exemplary loot there. Also, this meant one of Jack's relatives was a pirate.

Jack ambled down from the attic to his grandfather. He told his grandfather about the pirate and the map. His grandfather stood in awe. The dynamic duo decided to find the loot marked on the map. They brought food and water. Then, they drove to the dock that was on the map and bought a miniature ship. It had a steam engine, which had steam

rising from it. They got on the ship and rode it. Suddenly, a gleaming blue light arose ~~form~~ [from] the map and stated the words: Treasure comes to those who do hard work, so I will send you back to the ages of the pirates so you will have a challenge for this plunder. Jack and his grandfather were petrified at the sight of a perplexing portal appearing in front of them. Their ship was forced to steer into the portal and then the portal closed.

#2 Suddenly, their puny ship was on ferocious ~~tigers~~ [waves]. They rocked around like babies in a cot. Water splattered everywhere, and the ship was fracturing. The two were drenched in the salty sea water. Their hearts were beating as hard as a lion. Finally, the infuriated waves had left them. In the distance, Jack and his grandfather saw an enormous pirate ship. Their flag had a skull with a sleek arrow in it. They had dreadful cannonballs and a large crew.

The ship was a ~~blood-curling~~ [blood-curdling] sight and was heading towards Jack and his grandfather. Immediately, they started the engine and rode away from the pirates. Sweat trickled down Jack's grandfather's spine. His heart came out of his chest. Jack desperately started praying to God. After his prayers, he curled up ~~in to~~ [into] a ball like an echidna. Somehow, the pirates were on their tail and people armed the cannons. BOOM! CREAK! SPLASH! Jack and his grandfather's ship was obliterated and they were sinking. They strained as they ambled and frantically moved in peculiar ways. This adventure was extremely perilous. Jack's grandfather was feeble and slowly, his eyes closed and he stopped moving and let go of control. Jack stared in ~~sorrowness~~ [sorrow]. His mind was a soup filled with ~~loathe~~ [loathing] for the mischievous pirates and dejection for his grandfather. He could hear the despicable pirates cackle loudly. Jack swam to the top. CLUNK! Jack had hit his head on the anchor. It was a gigantic piece of glistening steel. Jack climbed the anchor and ~~on to~~ [onto] the ship. He swore to get the treasure for his grandfather.

Jack knew that every ship had a few escape boats, just in case the ship had collapsed. ~~jack~~ [Jack] had to be cautious of his surroundings and make sure nobody saw him. Just then, a pirate discovered Jack. The pirate was youthful and had a scruffy beard. His skin was pale and he had a night black eye patch. His sword was as sharp as a shark's tooth. His clothes ragged and torn. When he was about to let out a shriek, Jack covered his mouth and pleaded that both of them could form ~~and~~ [an] alliance. The pirate agreed with Jack and the two quickly became friends. Jack started to deeply trust the pirate so he decided that the both of them could split the abundance. The pirate's eyes twinkled when he heard the word abundance. The pirate ~~lead~~ [led] the way to the boats and both of them hopped ~~in to~~ [into] one and ~~got the~~ ~~grabbed~~ [grabbed] a paddle stick. They rowed out of the boat's home, but they rowed out to broad daylight and the pirates saw them. They were in trepidation. They exclaimed traitor and coward at the pirate with

Jack. He became melancholy. The pirates threw swords and hats at them and Jack caught a sword. The modern dynamic duo scurried out of the scene like rats.

#3 They saw the tiny island on the map in the distance. They paddled vigorously towards the island, using all the energy left in their frail arms. Once they reached the island, Jack and the pirate observed their surroundings. The island had towering coconut trees. The native animals included plump birds, furry monkeys and shiny fish in the vast and deep ocean. They searched the island for the treasure, but it was extremely challenging, just as the blue orb of light had stated. Luckily, Jack saw something red in the distance. As he crept closer to it, the red thing transformed ~~in-to~~ [into] a cross. Jack shouted out to the pirate to tell him that he had found the loot. The pirate hurried over to Jack eagerly and stared at the cross like it was his family. Jack and the pirate dug the hole with their sweaty palms. WHOOSH! SPLAT! Jack and the pirate fell ~~in-to~~ [into] the hole they dug. They looked next to them to see a glowing chest. It was a blazing star. Jack and the pirate were gleeful. They opened the chest and ~~eam~~ [came] out diamonds, rubies, emeralds and necklaces. Jack hauled half of the treasure and then the blue light ~~eam~~ [came] out of the map and it congratulated Jack. The portal came back again. Jack and his new pirate friend had a farewell. Jack escaped through the portal and told his parents the whole sublime story.