

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph of "Writing: The American Dream My Dear Beloved Diary,")

a. Strengths:

- Vivid imagery and descriptive language
- Effective use of first-person perspective

b. Weaknesses: Overwriting Your writing in this section tends to be overly dramatic and verbose. Phrases like "metamorphosed into the sinister theatre" and "glowering with heart-wrenching eeriness" feel forced and may distract from the core message. The imagery, while creative, becomes overwhelming and potentially confusing for the reader.

c. Exemplar: "I, Zoe Chen, a sixteen-year-old, entered the dark theatre, filled with the essence of America. Shadowy figures danced on the walls, making me feel uneasy and frozen in place."

#2 (Third paragraph)

a. Strengths:

- Introduces dialogue to break up narrative
- Attempts to create tension and conflict

b. Weaknesses: Lack of context Your writing here introduces new elements without proper setup or explanation. The sudden appearance of Marcus and his familiarity with Zoe is jarring. The dialogue feels disconnected from the previous paragraphs, making it difficult for the reader to follow the narrative thread.

c. Exemplar: "Suddenly, Marcus, a theatre critic I'd met earlier, appeared beside me. 'Zoe, we need to address this misrepresentation of the American Dream,' he whispered urgently."

#3 (Final paragraph)

a. Strengths:

- Attempts to provide a resolution
- Includes a reflective element

b. Weaknesses: Underdeveloped conclusion Your conclusion feels rushed and doesn't fully tie together the various elements introduced earlier. The shift from the theatre

scene to broader societal commentary is abrupt. The final sentence, "As I watched the crowd slowly turn into a mob, I left the scene, knowing that even though you may revolutionise a new era, there will still be chaos," introduces a new idea without adequate development.

c. Exemplar: "As the crowd's murmurs grew louder, I realised that changing perceptions of the American Dream would be a complex, ongoing process. I left the theatre, my mind buzzing with thoughts about the power of ideas and the challenges of societal change."

Actionable task: Rewrite the opening paragraph, focusing on establishing a clear setting and introducing your character without relying on overly dramatic language. Aim for a balance between descriptive imagery and straightforward narration.

Overall score: 41/50

Section 2: Revision Guidelines

Writing: The American Dream My Dear Beloved Diary,

I, Zoe Chen, a budding sixteen-year-old teenager, ~~metamorphosed into~~ [entered] the ~~sinister~~ [dimly lit] theatre, brimming with the lifeblood of America and ~~glowering~~ [resonating] with ~~heart-wrenching~~ [an unsettling] eeriness. Dancing silhouettes of ghoulish shadows petrified me, frozen, lost in time, as if I had stared into the snakes of Medusa. On the vast timber stage, there stood a man ~~donned with~~ [wearing] an unkempt suit, called Willy Loman. There was something gravely wrong. "Don't give up!" I cried, "You'll find your fruits of ~~labor~~ [labour] only AFTER you ~~labor~~ [labour]!" Seconds later in California, a man lost all his focus on his American Dream, a situation I could feel in my ripping veins. Stirring with macabre intolerance, it ripped the roots of the 'American Dream' that had been planted inside the man's thought. He became a hamster stuck in a roulette of mortgages, financial ruin and bankruptcies. #1

Marcus, a virtuoso theatre critic ~~emerged into~~ [entered] the room, ~~materialising~~ [appearing] right beside me. "You're Zoe[,] right!" he exclaimed, "C'mon, help me fix this situation!" Bewildered ~~of~~ [by] this nonsensical randomness, I babbled nonsense back to him. I still feel embarrassed by this today. There was one goal in our straightforward minds though, the American dream was not just success, money and authority, it should be spread across multiple aspects such as education, children, family, well-being and gratitude. #2

"We must ~~need to~~ understand Willy's tragic flaw!" Marcus pointed. "Lack of emotion?" "No." "Neglecting his capabilities?" "Obviously not, Zoe!" "Well, what is your BRILLIANT

idea?" I mused in irony. "I get it!" "Get WHAT?" "The flaw is the American Dream itself!" Marcus screamed, loud enough for someone in China to hear, "We must fix the thinking of Willy and the whole of America!"

I sat there, traumatised while watching the looming, inevitable conclusion of the story. At the climax, ~~me~~ [Marcus] and ~~Marcus~~ [I] stood up in ~~somewhat kind of~~ [a sort of] defence, exclaiming, "This has to be changed, Americans! A true dream is well-being, health, family and gratitude!" The crowd nodded in acknowledgement, then ~~shifting~~ [shifted] their eyes to Willy. As I watched the crowd slowly turn into a mob, I left the scene, knowing that even though you may revolutionise a new era, there will still be chaos. #3