

Section 1:

#1: "I frowned at my punch cards as the strange specimen was growing at an impossible rate. My thickset eyebrows arched, and my frizzy orange hair flowed behind me. This plant was skipping through time."

a. Strengths:

- Vivid description of the protagonist's appearance
- Intriguing concept of a plant skipping through time

b. Weaknesses: Lack of context Your opening lacks context, leaving the reader confused about the setting and situation. You've jumped straight into the action without providing any background information about the protagonist, the setting, or the circumstances leading to this moment.

c. Exemplar: "As I stood in my dimly lit laboratory, I frowned at the punch cards strewn across my desk. The strange specimen before me was growing at an impossible rate, defying all known laws of botany. My thickset eyebrows arched in disbelief, and my frizzy orange hair flowed behind me as I leaned in for a closer look. This plant wasn't just growing rapidly; it was skipping through time itself."

#2: "Zahi, the young Egyptian archaeological prodigy, traced the hieroglyphics with his trembling fingers that skipped a pulse. 'This is not a prophecy,' said Zahi. 'It is a warning from the future.'"

a. Strengths:

- Introduction of an intriguing character with a unique background
- Dramatic revelation about the nature of the hieroglyphics

b. Weaknesses: Abrupt character introduction You've introduced Zahi without any prior mention or context, which can be jarring for the reader. The sudden appearance of hieroglyphics is also unexplained, leaving the reader to wonder where they came from and how they relate to the time-skipping plant.

c. Exemplar: "My colleague Zahi, a young Egyptian archaeological prodigy, had been examining the ancient artefacts we'd discovered alongside the plant. His trembling fingers traced the hieroglyphics etched into a nearby stone tablet, his eyes widening with each symbol. 'This is not a prophecy,' Zahi said, his voice barely above a whisper. 'It's a warning from the future.'"

#3: "We all circled around the plant after giving in water. Our hearts were all beating. Our fingers were all pulsing with trepidation. We each placed our hands on the plant. At that moment, the world turned black. When I woke up, I saw London engulfed in flames."

a. Strengths:

- Building tension and anticipation before the time travel event
- Dramatic reveal of the new setting after time travel

b. Weaknesses: Rushed pacing Your pacing in this section is too rushed, not allowing the reader to fully absorb the gravity of the situation. The transition from the lab to London in flames is abrupt, lacking description of the time travel experience itself.

c. Exemplar: "We circled around the plant, our hearts pounding in unison. With trembling hands, we each placed our fingers on its emerald leaves. The air crackled with energy, and a wave of dizziness washed over me. The world spun, faded to black, and then exploded into a cacophony of sensations. When my vision cleared, I found myself standing on unfamiliar cobblestones. The acrid smell of smoke filled my nostrils, and as I looked up, my breath caught in my throat. London, a city I had only read about in history books, was engulfed in flames."

Actionable task: Rewrite the opening paragraph, focusing on establishing the setting and introducing your protagonist before diving into the action with the time-skipping plant. Ensure you provide enough context for the reader to understand the basic premise of your story.

Overall score: 41/50

Section 2: Revision Guidelines

I frowned at my punch cards as the strange specimen was growing at an impossible rate. My thickset eyebrows arched, and my frizzy orange hair flowed behind me. This plant was skipping through time. #1[Zahi, the young Egyptian archaeological prodigy, traced the hieroglyphics with his trembling fingers ~~that skipped a pulse~~ [, his pulse quickening]. "This is not a prophecy," said Zahi. "It is a warning from the future." #2

My other friend ~~whose name was Jack~~ [, Jack,] pocketed the peculiar pulsing seed that he had pickpocketed from a gentleman's coat. His shirt was ragged and showed all the adventures he had been through before. His jeans were stained with mud and dirt. "Blimey, we have got a big problem on our hands," he sighed. My gigantic lab hummed with electrical energy. "Impossible," ~~explained~~ [exclaimed] my mentor in astonishment. Just as I was going to touch the emerald green plant, Dr. Austin ran ~~in~~ [into] the room

and shouted to stop. He explained to us that this plant was also given to him, and it is [was] a chrono plant. He proved this by giving it some water and touching it. As quick as light~~,~~ he disappeared ~~and, on~~ [. On] the plant~~,~~ we could see a film of him inside ~~WWII~~ [World War II]. When he touched the plant again, he ended up right back in front of us where he was before. He told us that with these plants they could prune the time tree. We decided to all go to a time frame and see what this plant could really do. ~~We all circled around the plant after giving in water. Our hearts were all beating. Our fingers were all pulsing with trepidation. We each placed our hands on the plant. At that moment, the world turned black. When I woke up, I saw London engulfed in flames.~~
#3[We all circled around the plant after giving it water. Our hearts were pounding, our fingers pulsing with trepidation. We each placed our hands on the plant. At that moment, the world turned black. When I woke up, I saw London engulfed in flames.]
The sky was a shade of ~~man~~ [angry] and angry grey. "The timeline is already changing," said Zahi while a drop of trepidation trickled down his forehead. "The fire was only meant to be in the village, but we are in the castle and are also surrounded by fire warriors," Jack added. We all found out that it was Austin, and he was the one who was changing the timeline. We all knew he was going to kill the queen next. We ran and cornered him at a cliff but at the bottom there was no water. We had cornered Austin at the Time Sea. If Austin fell in there he would be trapped ~~for ever~~ [forever] in time. If he died, we would be altering time and we had to make sure it stayed the same. We decided to bring Austin back to the real world. The first thing we decided to do was to go back to the city. We were met by a parade and marching. We marched all day being thanked by everyone around the city. The queen came and told us that we would have a whole museum named after us. The next day, as we were about to go back~~.~~ [,] ~~We~~ [we] sat inside the Ada Lovelace II Museum. "It is like we are the guardians of time itself," joked Jack. We all then touched the plant and entered my lab. That was a really fun adventure and I hope I will have another one soon.