

## Section 1:

#1: "As the curtains closed on my final performance in the eternal theatre, I couldn't help but feel a sense of disillusionment wash over me. The play I had witnessed had left me haunted by its chilling depiction of the American dream and the harsh reality that awaited those who pursued it blindly."

### a. Strengths:

- Evocative imagery with the theatre metaphor
- Strong opening that sets the tone for the piece

b. Weaknesses: Overreliance on abstract language Your opening relies heavily on abstract concepts without grounding them in concrete details. For instance, "eternal theatre" and "sense of disillusionment" are vague and don't provide a clear picture of the experience.

c. Exemplar: "As the curtains fell on the final scene, the packed theatre fell silent. The play's stark portrayal of the American dream's broken promises left me feeling hollow, my earlier optimism shattered like glass."

#2: "The verisimilitude of the play was both its strength and its downfall. It depicted the harsh realities of the American dream with such rawness and authenticity that it left little room for interpretation. This unflinching portrayal pushed the audience to experience their own catharsis, forcing them to confront the systemic flaws ingrained in our society."

### a. Strengths:

- Sophisticated vocabulary demonstrating literary knowledge
- Thoughtful analysis of the play's impact

b. Weaknesses: Lack of specific examples You mention "harsh realities" and "systemic flaws" without providing concrete examples from the play. This makes your analysis feel abstract and disconnected from the actual performance.

c. Exemplar: "The play's unflinching portrayal of Maria's struggle with exploitative labour practices and housing discrimination laid bare the systemic inequalities that often thwart immigrants' pursuit of the American dream."

#3: "And so, as I stepped out of the eternal theatre and into the real world, I carried with me the weight of responsibility and the realisation that my role as a critic was not one to be taken lightly. In this moment of anagnorisis, I vowed to use my voice to shed light on

the deceptions that lay beneath the surface, to challenge the verisimilitude of the American dream, and to create a space where the truth could be seen, felt, and understood by all."

a. Strengths:

- Strong conclusion that ties back to the opening
- Clear personal growth and resolution

b. Weaknesses: Overly dramatic language Your conclusion uses grandiose language that may come across as melodramatic. Phrases like "weight of responsibility" and "vowed to use my voice" feel overblown for a theatre review.

c. Exemplar: "Leaving the theatre, I recognised my responsibility as a critic to not just review, but to spark meaningful discussions about the societal issues the play had so boldly addressed."

Actionable task: Rewrite the opening paragraph, focusing on grounding your abstract concepts in specific, sensory details from the play. Describe what you saw, heard, or felt that led to your sense of disillusionment.

Overall score: 44/50

## Section 2: Revision Guidelines

As the curtains closed on my final performance in the eternal theatre, I couldn't help but feel a sense of disillusionment wash over me. The play I had witnessed had left me haunted by its chilling depiction of the American dream and the harsh reality that awaited those who pursued it blindly.)#1

The narrative unfolded like a delicate web of symbolism, weaving together the lives of the characters in a tapestry of hope, ambition, and ultimately, tragedy. The protagonist, a young immigrant named Maria, represented the embodiment of the American dream. Her journey served as a catharsis for the audience, exposing the flaws in the pursuit of success and happiness in a land where dreams were supposed to come true.

It was during the ~~dénouement~~ [dénouement] of the play that my own anagnorisis occurred. As Maria's life unravelled and her dreams slipped away like sand through her fingertips, I too realized [realised] that the American dream was nothing but an illusion. The metatheatrical aspect of the play became apparent, as it held up a mirror to our society and forced us to confront the uncomfortable truth: that the promise of success and prosperity was a sham drenched in the blood, sweat, and tears of countless individuals.

My internal conflict as a critic intensified after this revelation. I was torn between the responsibility to unveil the truth to the public and the weight of knowing that my words had the power to shatter dreams. The hamartia of my role as a critic lay in the ~~realization~~ [realisation] that my own pursuit of artistic truth came at the expense of the hopes and aspirations of others.

(The verisimilitude of the play was both its strength and its downfall. It depicted the harsh realities of the American dream with such rawness and authenticity that it left little room for interpretation. This unflinching portrayal pushed the audience to experience their own catharsis, forcing them to confront the systemic flaws ingrained in our society.)#2

The peripetia of the play was a cruel awakening, as the characters' lives were turned upside down, and their dreams shattered before their very eyes. Each twist and turn served as a reminder that beneath the glimmering facade of the American dream, there lay a darker truth.

As I sat in the silence of the empty theatre, my mind echoed with questions. Should I use my platform as a critic to expose the lie of the American dream? Or was it my duty to simply observe and reflect, allowing the audience to draw their own conclusions? As I grappled with this internal conflict, I ~~realized~~ [realised] that my hamartia as a critic lay not in taking a stance but in failing to ask these questions in the first place.

(And so, as I stepped out of the eternal theatre and into the real world, I carried with me the weight of responsibility and the ~~realization~~ [realisation] that my role as a critic was not one to be taken lightly. In this moment of anagnorisis, I vowed to use my voice to shed light on the deceptions that lay beneath the surface, to challenge the verisimilitude of the American dream, and to create a space where the truth could be seen, felt, and understood by all.)#3