

Section 1:

#1 "Rick's heart dropped as he heard the gurgling of the rocket engines... As the countdown began, Rick tried to put his fears aside."

Strengths:

- Effective use of sensory details to build tension
- Strong emotional connection through Rick's anxiety

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Character Motivation → While you convey Rick's fear well, your writing doesn't fully establish why he's so anxious despite months of preparation. Including specific memories or past experiences would deepen his character.

Exemplar: "Rick's heart dropped as he heard the gurgling of the rocket engines. After their last failed launch at summer camp, he couldn't shake the feeling that history might repeat itself."

#2 "No, no, no!" Rick shouted as he watched the rocket spiral downwards... As he walked toward the crash site, something shiny caught his eye—an unbroken glass orb."

Strengths:

- Vivid description of the crash sequence
- Smooth transition to the discovery element

Weaknesses: Limited Emotional Range → Your writing focuses mainly on embarrassment after the crash, missing opportunities to explore deeper feelings. Phrases like "embarrassment wash over him" feel generic rather than personal.

Exemplar: "Rick's chest tightened as he watched their dreams spiral downward with the rocket, months of late nights and careful calculations reduced to scattered debris."

#3 "When the countdown started again... Their classmates and teachers bursted into cheers and applause."

Strengths:

- Strong contrast between first and second launch
- Good use of visual imagery with colourful smoke trails

Weaknesses: Rushed Resolution → Your ending moves too quickly from discovery to success. The phrase "spent the next few days redesigning" glosses over what could be interesting technical and emotional challenges.

Exemplar: "The countdown began, and this time Rick's excitement matched Mia's. Their countless hours testing the orb's energy levels had paid off – they knew exactly what their rocket could do."

Actionable Task: Rewrite the crash scene (part #2) focusing on Rick's internal monologue and specific memories that explain his deep investment in the project.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Rick's heart dropped as he heard the gurgling of the rocket engines. He was doomed, it was supposed to be the adventure of a lifetime. #1 Rick had spent months preparing for the annual science fair with his best friend, Mia. Together, they built a model rocket meant to soar high and showcase their hard work. But now, standing on the launch pad, Rick felt panic wash over him.

"Did you double-check the engine?" he asked nervously.

"Of course! Stop worrying!" Mia replied, excited as she fiddled with the launch controller. As the countdown began, Rick tried to put his fears aside.

3... 2... 1... The engines roared to life, and the rocket shot into the sky, leaving a bright trail of smoke behind. The crowd cheered, and for a moment, everything felt perfect. But then, to Rick's horror, he heard that strange noise again. #2 The rocket wobbled, and a dark cloud began to form around it.

~~"No, no, no!" Rick shouted as he watched the rocket spiral downwards.~~ [**"No, no, no!" Rick shouted, his voice cracking as he watched the rocket spiral downwards.**] Before he could react, it crashed into a nearby tree with a loud thud, scattering bits of cardboard and foam everywhere. Gasps filled the air, and Rick felt embarrassment wash over him. Their project was ruined, and so were their chances at the science fair. As he walked toward the crash site, something shiny caught his eye—an unbroken glass orb.

Carefully, he picked it up. The orb glowed faintly and felt warm in his hand.

"Mia, come here!" he called. Mia rushed over, her expression shifting from disappointment to intrigue. "What is it?" she wondered.

"I don't know, but it feels special," Rick replied, curiosity sparking within him. They brought it back to their school laboratory and discovered it was a rare meteorite fragment known for its unusual properties. It was rumoured to give bursts of energy—just what they needed for their project! Determined, Rick and Mia brainstormed ways to incorporate the orb into their rocket design. They spent the next few days redesigning their rocket and creating a new propulsion system using the orb's energy. When the day of the science fair finally arrived, they were well

prepared for their second launch. This time, Rick stood confidently at the launch pad, feeling excitement rather than fear.

#3 When the countdown started again, he locked eyes with Mia, who gave him a thumbs-up.

3... 2... 1... They pressed the button, and the rocket launched perfectly into the sky. The orb's energy propelled it higher than they ever imagined. The crowd gasped in astonishment as the rocket performed loops and twirls, releasing colourful smoke trails. This time, there were no gurgling sounds, just exhilaration. When the rocket descended, Rick and Mia rushed to catch it. Their classmates and teachers ~~burst~~ [**burst**] into cheers and applause.