

## Section 1:

### #1 (First paragraph): a. Strengths:

- Strong establishment of tension through vivid sensory details ("gurgling of rocket engines")
- Effective use of internal monologue to convey urgency

b. Weaknesses: Redundant Information → Your repetition of "2 ways" and "both certain deaths" dilutes the impact. The phrase "The trepidation was tangible, almost like if he breathed too much, it would choke him" could be more precisely crafted.

c. Exemplar: "Rick's heart dropped at the gurgling rocket engines - a sound that could only mean catastrophic failure. Either an imminent explosion or oxygen leak. The trepidation hung thick in the air, suffocating all hope as the launch sequence continued its merciless countdown."

### #2 (Third paragraph): a. Strengths:

- Creates compelling tension through time pressure
- Effective use of the red/blue button choice as a plot device

b. Weaknesses: Rushed Pacing → Your countdown sequence feels hurried with minimal emotional depth. The phrase "2 buttons instantly went to his mind" lacks the weight such a pivotal decision deserves.

c. Exemplar: "Two seconds remained as Rick's eyes darted between the buttons before him - red for termination, blue for continuation. Six years of work versus potentially catastrophic consequences. His hand moved with determined purpose."

### #3 (Final paragraph): a. Strengths:

- Dramatic description of the re-entry
- Satisfying resolution to the tension

b. Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Climax → Your description of the landing lacks sufficient detail. The phrase "landed on Earth with a majestic Splash" doesn't fully capture the magnitude of this achievement.

c. Exemplar: "The capsule pierced through Earth's atmosphere at 120 million degrees Celsius, a blazing meteor aimed at the Pacific. The impact sent towering plumes of water skyward as rescue vessels converged on their position."

Actionable Task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing specifically on sensory details of the splashdown - include sounds, visuals, and the physical sensations of impact.

Overall Score: 42/50

## Section 2:

Rick's heart dropped as he heard the gurgling of the rocket engines. He was doomed, there were only 2 ways there would be gurgling. Either, it was about to blow up, or the oxygen in the rocket was leaking out. 2 ways, both certain deaths. He seemed like he wasn't the only one to hear it. ~~The trepidation was tangible, almost like if he breathed too much, it would choke him.~~ [The trepidation was tangible, thick enough to choke.] The only thing they could do was hope for the best. There was nothing to do, ~~the launching period had started, and they were doomed.~~ [the launch sequence had begun, sealing their fate.] #1

His hands flew across the control board, and as he stared at the screen, he noticed. 3 minutes, 3 minutes to blow up reputation or a world first. Then, as he thought it couldn't get any worse, it happened. The countdown of the explosion. Everyone was muttering, ~~a series of Mandarin, English and Russian, exploded in anger~~ [a cacophony of Mandarin, English and Russian exploded in anger] as it showed on the big screen. Everyone was furious. Why would people even agree on having NASA, SpaceX, CNSA and Roscosmos group together for being the first to travel to Mars. ~~The nose cone started to heat up, and as the engine sputtered again,~~ [As the nose cone heated and the engine sputtered again,] someone called out something that was the words of a moron. "Keep it going."

~~Protests erupted and a split headache erupted through Rick's head,~~ [Protests erupted as splitting pain shot through Rick's head,] as he fainted. He woke up with a mere 3 seconds left of blast off. 2 buttons instantly went to his mind. Red and Blue. The matrix. Red to terminate and waste 6 years of work. Blue to continue, and possibly kill everyone in the building. 2... He had to think fast as he stored the button he was going to press. 1.. He pushed his hand straight to the Blue button. He just stared at the sight of the blastoff. Was it going to explode? Was it going to survive? He counted in his head. 1...2...3...4...5..., nothing happened and as they all held their breath, the sky erupted with fireworks. #2

It had exploded, debris fell onto the surface, and as the smoke cleared, the space ship was still there, but missing a nose cone. It was going to go to Mars, and everyone cheered, but the truth settled quickly, they wouldn't make it back, unless they sent another one to catch them. They didn't have time. Then he was thinking, if only, if only, if only.

The next day, they got the message of coming back. They didn't know how, so they did a freefall. As long as they were in the right direction, they would eventually make it. They came back down at a deathly pace, ~~staight~~ [straight] towards the pacific. It was scary, a freefall was when they used the last of the energy to blast them towards Earth, and without steering. Their cameras viewed everything. 120 million degrees ~~eelsius~~ [Celsius] on the outside. ~~it~~ [It] landed on Earth with a

majestic Splash. Boats instantly went to retrieve the ~~Atronauts~~ [Astronauts]. They were alive. They'd done it. Cheering exploded in the control centre, and all Rick did was smile. #3