

Section 1:

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

- Vivid scene-setting with sensory details like "clattered" and "glossy billboard"
- Strong emotional connection established through Zack's reaction

b. Weaknesses: Overreliance on telling —> Your writing directly states emotions and reactions rather than allowing them to unfold naturally. For instance, "his heart sinking" and "How could this happen?" tell rather than show the emotional impact.

c. Exemplar: "Zack's skateboard clattered to the ground as his fingers curled into fists, his eyes fixed on the glossy billboard that seemed to mock everything he loved about Venice Beach."

#2 (Fourth and fifth paragraphs): a. Strengths:

- Well-structured progression of activism
- Detailed description of community involvement

b. Weaknesses: Pacing inconsistency —> Your writing rushes through significant events without giving them proper weight. The transition from "started an online petition" to "gained thousands of signatures" feels abrupt and lacks emotional depth.

c. Exemplar: "Each signature on the petition felt like a small victory, but as Zack watched the numbers climb into the thousands, he realised digital support alone wouldn't save the soul of Venice Beach."

#3 (Sixth paragraph): a. Strengths:

- Captures tension of the moment
- Shows internal conflict

b. Weaknesses: Mixed metaphor overload —> Your writing combines too many metaphorical expressions: "pulsating heartbeat crescendoed into surging waves" and "swirled in his head like a violent maelstrom." This creates confusion rather than clarity.

c. Exemplar: "His heart hammered against his ribs as he watched the executives present their polished plans, each word threatening to erase the Venice Beach he knew and loved."

Actionable Task: Rewrite the sixth paragraph, focusing on one strong metaphor to convey Zack's anxiety, and incorporate physical symptoms of nervousness rather than explaining his emotional state directly.

Overall Score: 44/50

Section 2:

Zack's skateboard clattered to the ground as he stared in disbelief at the glossy billboard. "Coming Soon: Sunset Plaza—Luxury Shopping, Dining, and Entertainment," it proclaimed, showing no trace of the colourful Venice Beach Boardwalk he called home. #1

For a moment, he just stood there, ~~his heart sinking~~, [as dread settled in his stomach,] "How could this happen?" Venice Beach was more than a place—it was a lifestyle, a community of artists, musicians, skaters, and street vendors who made the boardwalk a vibrant, unique space. Zack loved the ~~eleetic~~ [eclectic] energy, the creativity that pulsed through the air with every mural, drum circle, and tattoo artist. This soulless plaza threatened to erase all of it, paving over the rich culture with sterile luxury.

The next few days were a whirlwind of emotions for Zack. Anger simmered beneath his skin as he watched developers start marking off areas along the boardwalk. He talked to other skaters, vendors, and artists—some shrugged it off, resigned to change, but others shared his shock and sadness. Determined not to let Venice Beach fade into history, Zack knew he had to act.

~~Zack's first step was to start an online petition.~~ [Hunched over his laptop late into the night, Zack launched an online petition.] He crafted a passionate message about preserving the boardwalk's history, its cultural significance, and the threat of gentrification. In just a week, the petition gained thousands of signatures. But Zack knew that wasn't enough. He needed the voices of the community to be heard, not just in numbers but in stories. #2

He began ~~organizing~~ [organising] a "Save Venice" rally, where locals could gather and speak out. Flyers went up across the neighbourhood, on telephone poles and storefronts. Zack approached street performers, muralists, and shop owners, urging them to join the movement. Slowly, people began to rally behind him. They held art exhibitions on the boardwalk to remind everyone of its cultural value and staged impromptu performances to draw attention. Local musicians played protest songs while skaters performed tricks under signs that read, "Venice Beach is not for sale!"

But the developers were powerful. Zack attended city council meetings, where polished executives in suits downplayed the impact of the luxury plaza and focused on the economic benefits. ~~His pulsating heartbeat crescendoed into surging waves of trepidation as adrenaline accelerated through his veins.~~ [His pulse raced as he gripped the edges of his chair, watching the executives present their sleek proposals.] "What if the developers outnumbered his group? What if he lost his beautiful Venice sidewalk?" ~~Frustrate~~ [Frustrated] thoughts swirled in his head like a violent maelstrom but Zack knew he had to utterly focus on keeping himself calm. #3

Taking a deep breath, Zack's hands trembled as he stood up to speak, but his voice was steady. He spoke about growing up in Venice, about the memories woven into every mural, the friendships formed on the boardwalk, and the deep loss that would come with gentrification.

In the end, the courts sided with the people of Venice. The developers were forced to scrap their plans for Sunset Plaza, and the boardwalk remained intact, a place where creativity and community thrived. Zack stood on the beach, watching the sun set over the ocean, his skateboard in hand. He knew that Venice Beach would always face challenges, but for now, its soul was safe—and he had fought for it.