

Section 1:

#1 (First answer about school offerings) Strengths:

- Strong emphasis on diverse talents across academics and music
- Clear articulation of specific subjects and activities you enjoy

Weaknesses: Limited development of unique contributions → While you mention various activities, your response would benefit from deeper exploration of how these skills could specifically benefit the school community. For instance, when you mention "I love doing maths," you could elaborate on how you might contribute to mathematics competitions or peer tutoring.

Exemplar: "My passion for mathematics, combined with my experience in competitive problem-solving, would allow me to contribute to the school's mathematics club and mentor younger students."

#2 (Discussion of weaknesses and strengths) Strengths:

- Honest self-reflection about areas for improvement
- Balanced presentation of both strengths and weaknesses

Weaknesses: Passive presentation of challenges → Your discussion of public speaking focuses solely on limitations rather than growth potential. The phrase "I am usually scared of what others may think of me" could be reframed to show resilience and determination to improve.

Exemplar: "While public speaking currently challenges me, I am actively working to develop this skill through debate club participation and classroom presentations."

#3 (Future aspirations) Strengths:

- Clear vision for future goals
- Personal connection to career choices

Weaknesses: Limited exploration of journey → Your response about becoming a doctor focuses on the end goal without discussing the steps to achieve it. The statement "I want to follow their footsteps" needs more development about your personal motivation beyond family influence.

Exemplar: "My interest in medicine stems not only from my parents' influence but also from my fascination with human biology and desire to make a meaningful impact in healthcare."

Actionable Task: Rewrite your response about school offerings by including specific examples of how you would apply each skill mentioned (mathematics, music, handball) to existing school programmes or initiatives you could start.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Hello, my name is Kingston Cheng and I would like to apply for Sydney Grammar School.

#1 Well, to start off I can offer the school with academics. I love doing maths and thinking skills because there are only 1 answer for each question. ~~I also love challenges because they test my skills and I am always participating.~~ [I embrace challenges that test my skills, consistently seeking opportunities to participate.] In writing, I am very creative and like to build up a lot of tension, making my stories frightening. For English, ~~I am not the best but I am getting better and sometimes score high.~~ [whilst English is an area of ongoing improvement, I have achieved strong results.] I can offer the school help toward music. I play the flute and the piano. I have been playing the flute for about 2 years and the piano for about 9 months now. I can help strengthen the band in not just 1 instrument but 2 instruments. Although I am not very sporty, I play handball, a game which relies on your hand-eye coordination, reflexes and timing. If there is a handball competition, I am very willingly to join in and try to win. I always pay attention at school and would always show respect to my peers and my teachers.

#2 My strengths are in the academic area. I am quite good at maths, thinking skills, writing and science. I did NAPLAN and was able to get exceeding for every single area. Maths usually appeals as easy and quick to do because you need to understand what the question is saying and do calculations accurately. My strengths can also be in music. I like music because many songs sound tranquil and calming, releasing the anxiety and stress inside of me. I'd personally say that piano is the best instrument because the notes overlapping makes the song calm and soft. However, my weaknesses are in the public speaking area. I don't have a loud voice and I am usually scared of what others may think of me. I always think that the audience would laugh at me, causing my nerves to get upon me. My other weakness has to be sports. I am not the typical runner and I am not in any type of sport club. I seem to be mediocre at everything except running, which I am not very good at. This shows that I am not in ~~zone~~ [form] or area for the athletics carnival. So that is basically all of my main weaknesses and strengths.

Personally, I like to learn. This is because there is always room to learn more and I am willing to fill up my head until the brim. As I said before, I like to do maths because there is only one answer for each question. Thinking skills is also one of my favourite subjects because it makes me think. Although the questions for thinking skills may be a bit absurd, I am always willing to try to finish the question, even if I don't have a lot of time. Sometimes, I like doing class sport which is basically doing sport with only my class. My class isn't very sporty so it becomes fun when I am able to participate and actually win. The sense of winning is strong, which is why I like class sport. I also like my friends at school because we play the same games together and we always connect with each other. Some of my friends are complete opposites of me but we still get along. My friends are the things that make my life sparkle with smiles and laughs.

#3 Well, in 6 years, I would be in year 11, training for the HSC. I will also be seeing myself studying to become a doctor, which is really hard. I have to be hard working and smart about my decisions. Doctors are one of the hardest jobs and I was inspired by my parents because they are doctors. I want to follow their footsteps and become a doctor, making myself and my parents proud. If I don't become a doctor, then I want to be an architect. An architect is a person who designs houses or buildings. When I was little, I used to love building and designing things because I can always imagine what the house or the building

may look like. I always played with Lego because it was fun building things and looking at what I have built. So that is what I see myself doing in 6 years.

Thank you.