

## Section 1:

### #1: Opening Paragraph Strengths:

- Vivid sensory details with "sun-bronzed hand trembled" and "fresh, earthy soil" create an immersive atmosphere
- Effective metaphor comparing the rainforest to a "patchwork quilt" shows creative expression

**Weaknesses: Inconsistent Point of View** → Your narrative shifts between past and present tense within the same paragraph. "Rick's hand trembled" (past) then moves to "the rainforest stretched" (present). This creates confusion in the timeline of events.

*Exemplar: "Rick's sun-bronzed hand trembled with excitement as he carefully placed the delicate seedling into the fresh, earthy soil. Around him, the newly planted section of the Amazon rainforest stretched like an intricate patchwork quilt, each sapling a precious stitch in nature's tapestry."*

### #2: Middle Development Strengths:

- Strong emotional progression showing Rick's internal struggle
- Effective use of physical sensations to convey anxiety

**Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Scene Transitions** → Your transitions between scenes feel abrupt. "Time flew" and "The sun finally ran to sleep" lack smooth connecting details to link the scenes coherently.

*Exemplar: "As Rick planted each sapling with growing confidence, the afternoon slipped away. The setting sun painted the sky in deep oranges and purples, signalling the end of his first day's work."*

### #3: Climactic Scene Strengths:

- Dynamic action sequence with the truck scene
- Clear emotional stakes for the protagonist

**Weaknesses: Run-on Sentences** → Your action sequences contain multiple run-on sentences joined by commas. "the truck leaned closer to the car as the car swerved and left the truck heading for a cliff as it skidded down and crashed" needs proper punctuation and structure.

*Exemplar: "The truck leaned closer to the car. As the vehicle swerved away, the truck veered toward the cliff edge, skidding downward before crashing with a thunderous impact."*

Actionable Task: Rewrite the **trick scene (climactic moment)** focusing on breaking down the action into clear, properly punctuated sentences. Pay special attention to creating tension through varied sentence lengths.

**Score: 40/50**

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Section 2:

Seeds of change: Brazil's rainforest revival by Ian Xu

#1 Rick's sun-bronzed hand trembled with excitement as he carefully placed the delicate seedling into the fresh, earthy soil. Around him, the newly planted section of the Amazon **rain forest** [rainforest] stretched across like an intricate patchwork quilt, each sapling a precious stitch in nature's fascinating tapestry. ~~The hesitant Rick who had first come to visit the reforestation project had changed and now understood~~ [Rick, no longer the hesitant visitor to the reforestation project, now understood] the vital role of each plant and animal in the rainforest's spectacular web of life.

His mother **made** [had created] something fascinating here in the rainforest—a second chance to restore the golden lion tamarin's home. The **rain forest** [rainforest] was home to many endangered species who **have** [had] died out, and they were going to sustain the wildlife corridor with their might. Rick was overwhelmed by **her** [his] mother ['s] expectations. Two-million trees? It would take him a **life-time** [lifetime] to even plant one tree without his mother's guidance, so how was he going to plant that much **tree** [trees]?

#2 The weathered shovel felt foreign in Rick's trembling hands, as he faced the vast expanse of barren earth. He couldn't do it. ~~Why couldn't he just plant one single tiny sapling?~~ [Could he not even plant one single tiny sapling?] He thought to himself. He breathed deeply, and started to dig out the brown dirt, which was flinging onto the ground. Each **carefully** [careful] scoop of rich soil felt like a triumphant victory against his gnawing self doubt. Each precisely tamped root system a battle won against the voice in Rick's mind that said one boy couldn't do it. He carefully dropped the tiny but precious seedling into the newly dug hole and slowly tipped it in.

Time flew as Rick worked through each sapling with clumsiness and **messily** [messiness]. The sun finally ran to sleep while the moon climbed up the sky to replace it. Rick's heart ached and his stomach pulsed like he was going to vomit. His fingertips tingled as **h** [he] dropped the shovel and sat down, with his sweaty palms touching the soil. Rick heard the birds chirping

beside him as a gust of wind blew against him. "~~Ok~~ ["Okay] team, we've done enough today. We can all go home and rest," ~~Said~~ [said] Rick's mum in an exhausting tone.

Rick felt the weight lift ~~of~~ [off] his shoulders as he lurched home. Maybe he could do better and make his mum proud. Maybe he could contribute to the team and make progress in the reforestation program. Maybe he wasn't a failure after all.

#3 Rick woke up just when the sun ~~come~~ [came] into sky. He took out his gloves, grabbed his shovel and strolled out the door. ~~not~~ [Not a] single person was on the site. Rick took a deep breath and started to fling more and more dirt with his sharp shovel. One by one, Rick worked until his hands dropped ~~of~~ [off] his arms. Rick sat down and admired the beautiful nature, until a shadow loomed across him, and a sound of a truck revving attracted Rick's attention.

~~A tall wide and and monster-like truck with a sharp metal claw with a large hanging spiked ball provoked Rick~~ [A monster-like truck, tall and wide, with its sharp metal claw and large hanging spiked ball, provoked Rick]. ~~the~~ [The] truck leaned back, and swung its deadly ball at Rick. Rick crashed down to crouch as it barely missed him. ~~instead~~ [Instead], they were going for the poor, small trees! "~~noooooo~~[Nooooo]!" shrieked Rick. Swish! Crack! The trees snapped in half like sticks and collapsed onto ~~to~~ the ground. The truck picked up the sticks with its claw and dashed away, and Rick could hear another car revving behind him. ~~the~~ [The] truck revved up, and skidded across the beautiful landscape as it soon caught up with ~~the the~~ [the] truck. ~~the~~ [The] ~~trucked~~ [truck] leaned closer to the car as the car swerved and left the truck heading for a cliff as it skidded down and crashed.

"~~phew~~ [Phew]! That's got rid of him!" a familiar voice gasped with tiredness.

"~~mum~~ [Mum]!" cried Rick. "~~all~~ [All] the trees have been destroyed! ~~it'll~~ [It'll] take years to regrow them all!" exclaimed Rick while running to his mum.

"~~don't~~ [Don't] worry my dear ~~rick~~ [Rick]. ~~with~~ [With] your help, we can do anything," said ~~hi~~ [his] mum] with a ~~sooting~~ [soothing] tone. ~~a~~ [A] jolt of warmth shot through him and he knew he had done it.