

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "She felt the ridges of the map she was carving and wondered if the storms below still whispered secrets to those who dared listen. The crinkled paper started to life off the table."

Strengths:

- Strong sensory detail with "felt the ridges" creates a vivid physical connection
- Creative personification of storms "whispering secrets" builds atmosphere

Weakness: Unclear Setting Description → Your opening lacks context about where this scene takes place. The transition between feeling the map and the paper lifting is sudden, leaving readers unsure about the environment.

Exemplar: *She felt the ridges of the ancient map she was carving in her captain's quarters, the violent storm outside making the ship creak as she wondered if the tempest below still whispered secrets to those who dared listen.*

#2: "CRACK! A long wavy line crashed down from the sky, it was the biggest lighting bolt she has ever seen. The boat rocked from left to right, her fingers were trembling."

Strengths:

- Effective use of onomatopoeia with "CRACK!" creates impact
- Good physical description of movement with the boat rocking

Weakness: Limited Emotional Response → Your character's reaction focuses only on trembling fingers, missing deeper emotional impact of such a dramatic moment.

Exemplar: *CRACK! A long wavy line crashed down from the sky - the biggest lightning bolt she had ever seen. The boat rocked violently, her fingers trembling as fear and determination battled within her.*

#3: "She ran to the steering wheel and pointed the boat in the direction of the island. Suddenly, the boat snapped, the remains of the boat started sinking to the bottom of the ocean, taking the map and her down with it."

Strengths:

- Creates tension with quick pace of action
- Dramatic ending with unexpected twist

Weakness: Rushed Conclusion → Your ending happens too quickly, jumping from discovery to disaster without building proper tension.

Exemplar: *She rushed to the steering wheel, pointing the boat towards the mysterious isle. As waves crashed against the hull, a sickening crack split the air. The boat groaned and splintered beneath her feet, its remains dragging both the precious map and her into the depths below.*

■ Your story shows promise with its adventurous spirit and interesting premise about a hidden isle. However, you could strengthen it by developing your main character's background and motivations more deeply. The sudden shifts between events need smoother transitions to help readers follow the action better. Try adding more details about the weather's buildup and the boat's condition to make the final disaster more believable. Your protagonist's emotional journey could be more detailed - show us more of her fears, hopes, and determination throughout the story.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the ending paragraph focusing on building tension gradually - start with small warning signs of the boat's condition before leading to its eventual destruction.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 She felt the ridges of the map she was carving and wondered if the storms below still whispered secrets to those who dared listen. ~~The crinkled paper started to life off the table.~~ [The crinkled paper lifted off the table.] The wind was ~~to~~ [too] strong for her bony, weak, calloused fingers. She tried to hold it down, but the paper was just like her, yearning for adventure, never waiting for it to find her, she must find it.

#2 CRACK! A long wavy line crashed down from the sky, it was the biggest ~~lighting~~ [lightning] bolt she ~~has~~ [had] ever seen. The boat rocked from left to right, her fingers were trembling. If she loses this map and the boat, everything she worked for would be ruined. She left her family for this adventure, they never would've forgiven her, and she certainly wouldn't forgive herself.

#3 AHA! Suddenly she realised what the writing on the map said. She stared in disbelief, could it really be true. ~~Ever since she heard of the legend of the isle of the lost, she always wanted to prove that it's true, and now she finally had proof.~~ [Ever since hearing of the legend of the isle of

the lost, she had always wanted to prove its existence, and now she finally had proof.] She ran to the steering wheel and pointed the boat in the direction of the island. Suddenly, the boat snapped, the remains of the boat started sinking to the bottom of the ocean, taking the map and her down with it.

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gasped at the intricate sculpture, unaware it was created by the one thing they feared most."

Strengths:

- Creates an intriguing opening with vivid imagery of the alien sunset
- Builds mystery by mentioning "the one thing they feared most"

Weakness: Limited Context Development → Your opening line introduces several elements (alien sunset, sculpture, fear) but doesn't give readers enough details to understand their significance. The connection between the sculpture and what people fear remains unclear.

Exemplar: *In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gathered around the mysterious sculpture, its crystalline surface reflecting their awe-struck faces as they remained oblivious to its true creator - the very beings whose existence they had denied for so long.*

#2: "I saw the writing on the sculpture, and it was in a different language, and I could read it."

Strengths:

- Introduces a unique ability of the main character
- Adds an element of prophecy to the story

Weakness: Underdeveloped Character Ability → Your introduction of the character's power to read the mysterious language feels sudden. You mention discovering powers a year ago but don't show how this ability affects the character or why it matters now.

Exemplar: *As I traced the strange symbols etched into the sculpture's base, the familiar tingling sensation returned - the same feeling I'd had a year ago when I first realised I could understand languages that had never existed on Earth.*

#3: "I thought that there was no point in trying to tell them that aliens are here, they wouldn't believe me."

Strengths:

- Shows the character's inner conflict
- Creates tension between the protagonist and the crowd

Weakness: Rushed Character Response → Your character gives up too quickly after one attempt to warn people. The inner struggle between knowing the truth and facing disbelief needs more depth.

Exemplar: *My heart sank as their dismissive laughter echoed through the square - how could I make them understand the danger when they refused to see what was right in front of them?*

■ Your narrative has potential with its interesting premise about aliens and a character with special abilities. The story moves quite quickly from the peaceful sculpture scene to chaos, which doesn't give readers enough time to feel connected to the setting or characters. You could make your story stronger by showing more of the main character's thoughts and feelings throughout the events. Adding more details about how the city looks and feels before it changes would help readers care more about what happens to it.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the section where your character discovers the writing on the sculpture, focusing on their emotional reaction and detailed description of how their power works when reading the alien language.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gasped at the intricate sculpture, unaware it was created by the one thing they feared most. As the warm, majestic feeling in the air rose, ~~trouble started to rise too~~ [trouble began to brew]. The sculpture that everyone loved and cherished, ~~started to crack~~ [began to crack]. No one knew why, except me.

#2 I had powers that I discovered a year ago. ~~I saw the writing on the sculpture, and it was in a different language, and I could read it~~ [I stood before the sculpture, my eyes drawn to the strange writing that covered its surface - writing in a language I somehow understood]. I could tell something was wrong, ~~this once beautiful city turned into shouting, fighting, ashes~~ [this once beautiful city descended into chaos - filled with shouting, fighting, and destruction]. I saw a glow in the sky, I feared that the writing on the statue was coming true.

"At the darkest time, One the darkest night, The statue rises. The person who can see The mysteries beneath the power Knows the worst, And can only fear, For everyone's nightmares are here."

#3 I ran onto the stage in the centre of town. "Everyone, you must find shelter, aliens are coming!" "Get off the stage kid," shouted a voice from the crowd. "There's no such thing as aliens!" said a man in the front. ~~I thought that there was no point in trying to tell them that aliens are here, they wouldn't believe me~~ [I realised warning them was futile - they simply wouldn't believe me]. Suddenly the ground caved, green figures started to creep on the buildings, the shops and everything that made this city a city. A scream came from behind me. "ALIENS!"

□ INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 "The way my family has shaped the way I approach life..." Strengths:

- Shows personal growth through family support
- Includes a specific example with soccer juggling

Weakness: Limited reflection on the learning process → Your response focuses mainly on describing what your family taught you, but doesn't delve into how these lessons changed your thinking or approach to challenges. For instance, when mentioning "all my bad ideas lead to my good ones," you could explore how this mindset helps you tackle new challenges.

Exemplar: *When I struggled with soccer juggling, my mum's encouragement taught me that persistence and self-belief are essential for growth. This lesson has transformed how I approach difficult tasks - instead of giving up, I now see mistakes as stepping stones to success.*

#2 "A tradition that my family has is that on Christmas..." Strengths:

- Shares a unique family tradition
- Shows emotional connection to family bonding

Weakness: Surface-level description of the tradition's impact → Your answer describes the activity but doesn't fully explore why this tradition matters beyond having fun. The mention of "my family is always really busy" could be expanded to show how this tradition brings your family closer together.

Exemplar: *Our Christmas board game tradition is especially meaningful because it's the one time when everyone puts aside their busy schedules to connect and laugh together, creating precious memories with my grandparents that I'll always treasure.*

#3 "My mum inspires me the most..." Strengths:

- Shows clear admiration for mother
- Provides multiple examples of mother's positive influence

Weakness: Limited connection between mother's qualities and personal growth → While you list many wonderful things about your mum, you could better explain how her qualities have shaped your own character and goals. The statement "I hope to become like her one day" could be developed to show specific ways you're working towards this.

Exemplar: *My mum's ability to balance family care with work has taught me valuable lessons about responsibility and dedication. I'm already applying her never-give-up attitude in my studies and sports, working towards becoming as supportive and resilient as she is.*

■ Your answers provide good examples and show genuine appreciation for your family. To make your responses stronger, try to dig deeper into how these experiences have shaped your character and actions. Think about specific ways your family's lessons help you in different situations. Add more details about how these experiences changed your thinking and behaviour. Your answers could be longer to show more of your personal growth through these family influences.

Score: 35/50

Section 2:

1. How has your family shaped the way you approach challenges in life? Can you give a specific example?

~~The way my family has shaped the way I approach life is that they have taught me many valuable things.~~ [My family has taught me many valuable things that shape how I approach life.] I used to just give up if I found things ~~to~~ [too] hard, but my family had taught me that no matter how many mistakes I make or how many bad choices I make, it's about how many times I picked myself up and tried again. They told me that all my bad ideas lead to my good ones. My family helped me pick myself up no matter what. #1 One time I was playing soccer. I was trying to learn how to juggle with a soccer ball, but I never did it right. My mum told me that I'm not going to get it first try, and I didn't and that's ok. She told me that if I keep trying, I can do it, I just have to believe in myself. Now I am able to do it a little bit and that advice helped in many other ways.

1. What is one tradition or habit in your family that you cherish the most, and why?

#2 A tradition that my family has is that on Christmas we play some board games. We have a competition to win red packets with money in them. I love it so much because my grandparents do it with us. They actually came up with it. My family is always really busy or doesn't want to play board games with me so it's really fun to spend some time doing something that I really enjoy. Last year, my dad ~~one~~ [won one] ~~won~~ game, and I won one game. We played 2 games that are simple but really fun.

1. Who in your family inspires you the most, and what lessons have you learned from them?

#3 My mum inspires me the most because of a few things. She taught me to never give up and that failing is just a part of life. My mum is a great parent as she helps me, my brothers, my dad, while she still has to work. Whenever I'm feeling down, she's always there to cheer me up. I know I can always go to her when I need help or anything really. She supports me so much especially in soccer and academics. She is the best mum ever and is so inspiring, I hope to become like her one day.