

□ 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." Strengths:

- Your use of sensory details with "felt the ridges" creates a tangible experience
- Your metaphorical language with "storms whispered secrets" adds mystery

Weakness: Limited Context → Your opening lacks background information about why she's carving a map. "She felt the ridges" starts mid-action without helping readers understand the setting or character's purpose.

Exemplar: *As her fingers traced the ridges of the ancient map she was carving, Marina wondered if the violent storms that once raged below still held their secrets.*

#2 "She was looking at the pirate. Then, she realised. With a shocked face, she had actually been there." Strengths:

- Your attempt to create a surprising moment
- Your inclusion of emotional reaction with "shocked face"

Weakness: Underdeveloped Revelation → Your sudden realisation feels rushed. "She was looking at the pirate" doesn't give readers enough details about this pirate or why seeing them triggered her memory.

Exemplar: *Her eyes fixed on the weathered figure of the pirate carved into the corner of the map, and memories flooded back - she had stood on that very deck during the storm.*

#3 "She failed but in her mind, she tried to imagine what could have been there. Her train of thought ended and was just day dreaming." Strengths:

- Your attempt to show inner conflict
- Your portrayal of imagination versus reality

Weakness: Unclear Resolution → Your transition between reality and daydreaming is confusing. "She failed" doesn't explain what she failed at or why it matters.

Exemplar: *Though she struggled to remember every detail, her mind painted pictures of what might have been hidden beneath those stormy waters, until reality slowly pulled her back from her daydream.*

■ Your writing shows promise in creating an intriguing story about maps, pirates, and memories. To strengthen your narrative, try focusing on connecting your ideas more smoothly. When you mention the pirate or the storms, give your readers more details about why they matter to your main character. Your story jumps between past and present - try to make these time shifts clearer. Add more details about your character's feelings and thoughts to help readers understand why this map is important to her.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the middle paragraph (#2) focusing on describing the pirate in detail and explaining why seeing them triggered your character's memory of being there.

Score: 38/50

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.

#2 ~~She was looking at the pirate. Then, she realised. With a shocked face, she had actually been there.~~ [As her gaze fell upon the pirate, realisation struck her. Her face froze in shock as memories confirmed she had indeed been there.]

#3 ~~She failed but in her mind, she tried to imagine what could have been there. Her train of thought ended and was just day dreaming.~~ [Though she failed to recall everything, her mind struggled to piece together what might have been there. Her thoughts drifted away as she fell into a daydream.]

~~The horrendous storms buzzed as she sailed upon the secrets.~~ [The ferocious storms roared as she sailed across their mysterious depths.]

She carefully studied the map looking if [to see if] there was something else that she had remembered.

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "The crowd watched the detailed sculpture unaware that it was made out of something they hated." Strengths:

- Creates mystery and suspense through dramatic irony
- Opens with a strong visual image

Weakness: Limited sensory details → Your opening could benefit from describing how the crowd reacts to the sculpture. The phrase "detailed sculpture" gives little insight into what makes it fascinating to onlookers.

Exemplar: *The mesmerised crowd gathered around the towering sculpture, their eyes fixed on its intricate details, unaware of its disturbing secret.*

#2: "The sculpture resembled a monkey, however, it was made out of real monkeys." Strengths:

- Reveals the shocking twist effectively
- Uses clever wordplay with "monkey/monkeys"

Weakness: Underdeveloped revelation → Your revelation feels rushed. The phrase "made out of real monkeys" needs more build-up to create impact.

Exemplar: *The sculpture's lifelike features captured every detail of a majestic primate, but beneath its surface lay a horrifying truth - it was crafted from the bodies of actual monkeys.*

#3: "During the making of the sculpture, there was 1 witness who saw everything." Strengths:

- Introduces a plot twist
- Adds tension to the story

Weakness: Vague character development → Your witness lacks personality or motivation. The phrase "1 witness" doesn't tell us anything about this important character.

Exemplar: *As the sculptor worked in secret, a curious night guard watched from the shadows, horrified by each gruesome detail of the creation.*

■ Your story has an interesting concept that combines art and crime in a unique way. You need to develop your characters more deeply - who is the designer and what drives them to do this? The revelation about the stolen monkeys could have more impact if you build up the mystery slowly. Try to add more details about how the sculpture looks and smells to make the scene more real. Your ending feels rushed - take time to show how the police solved the crime.

Actionable task: Rewrite the scene where the witness discovers the truth, focusing on their emotions and reactions to make this character more real to readers.

Score: 38/50

Section 2:

#1 ~~The crowd watched the detailed sculpture unaware that it was made out of something they hated.~~ [The crowd watched the detailed sculpture, unaware that it was made from something they hated.]

#2 The sculpture resembled a monkey, however, ~~it was made out of real monkeys~~ [it had been crafted from real monkeys].

#3 No one but the designer knew and the mystery kept on going. Soon later, ~~the people had found out~~ [the people discovered] that 100 monkeys had been stolen from the zoo all at once. The crowd gasped, wondering who could have ~~done a such thing~~ [done such a thing]. No one knows forever. Or that is what the designer thought. ~~During the making of the sculpture, there was 1 witness who saw everything~~ [While the sculpture was being created, one witness had seen everything]. Police knew and tracked down the monkey thief.

□ INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 "My parents have told me to be more calm when faced with difficult and harsh challenges..."

Strengths:

- Shows self-awareness about managing emotions
- Provides a specific example about test-taking

Weaknesses: Limited depth in teamwork discussion → The mention of working in teams is brief and lacks concrete examples of how teamwork has actually helped you solve problems. Try expanding on a specific situation where collaborating with others led to success.

I've learned that working with classmates on group projects helps us share different ideas and solve problems faster. For instance, when our science team worked together on the solar system project, we finished earlier and created a better presentation.

#2 "The tradition that I cherish the most would definitely be our trip to Hong Kong and Japan..."

Strengths:

- Includes personal family connections
- Provides specific details about food experiences

Weaknesses: Surface-level description of traditions → Your answer focuses mainly on listing activities rather than explaining why these traditions are meaningful to you and how they have shaped you as a person.

Our yearly trips to Hong Kong and Japan have taught me to value family bonds and appreciate different cultures. Spending time with my cousins helps me understand the importance of maintaining close family relationships, while experiencing Japanese culture has opened my mind to new ways of living.

#3 "My dad inspires me the most because he is a hard working man..." Strengths:

- Shows admiration for parent's achievements
- Mentions specific qualities learned

Weaknesses: Missing personal impact → While you mention your father's success story, you don't share how his example has influenced your own actions and goals.

My father's journey from poverty to success has taught me to work hard in school and never give up. When I face difficult homework, I remember how he overcame challenges and this motivates me to keep trying.

■ Your responses would be more impactful if you shared more personal examples and feelings. Add details about how these experiences have changed you. Tell more about what you learned from working in teams, why family traditions matter to you, and how your father's example guides your daily choices. Make your answers longer by including specific stories that show these important parts of your life.

Score: 36/50

Section 2:

#1 ~~My parents have told me to be more calm~~ [My parents have taught me to be calmer] when faced with difficult and harsh challenges. For example, when doing tests, I am usually very nervous but I ~~now realised~~ [now realise] that I must become calm because then I'll concentrate easily and end up doing better on the test rather than being nervous. My parents also tell me to tackle problems with others like in a team so that we can finish things easily.

#2 The tradition that I cherish the most would definitely be our trip to Hong Kong and Japan every year. It is really fun when we go to Hong Kong because my cousins are there which means I can have ~~a whole of fun~~ [lots of fun]. Japan has exquisite tastes of their sushi and udon. We went to Osaka and they had delectable strawberries ~~ready tasting~~ [ready for tasting]. We bought one and it was an exotic taste.

#3 My dad inspires me the most because he is ~~a hard working~~ [a hardworking] man who went from poverty to ~~a millionaire~~ [becoming a millionaire]. This clearly shows me how big changes can happen within just a few years. He went to a great school and he shows how we need to be ~~hard working~~ [hardworking] and tranquil, every time.