

□ 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:

- Creates an intriguing opening with sensory details through touch
- Uses metaphorical language with storms whispering secrets

Weakness: Limited Scene Setting → Your opening lacks context about where Sally is and why she's carving a map. "She felt the ridges" doesn't give readers enough details about the setting or Sally's purpose. Exemplar: ***Sally traced the ridges of the ancient map with trembling fingers, her workshop desk scattered with carving tools as she pondered the storms that whispered secrets in the depths below.***

#2: "They went down in their swimsuits and then they found the treasure!" Strengths:

- Shows excitement through exclamation
- Presents a key moment in the story

Weakness: Missing Details → Your description jumps too quickly to finding the treasure. The phrase "went down in their swimsuits" needs more details about the deep-sea diving equipment and the dangers they faced. Exemplar: ***Equipped with special diving gear and lights, Sally and David descended through the crushing darkness until their torches illuminated something gleaming in the depths - the treasure!***

#3: "Then crazily the person that offered her \$10 took David to the ground and knocked him out." Strengths:

- Introduces an unexpected twist
- Shows conflict resolution

Weakness: Unclear Character Introduction → Your story suddenly brings back a character without proper build-up. The phrase "the person that offered her \$10" needs more development throughout the story. Exemplar: ***The mysterious benefactor who had first believed in Sally's dream emerged from the shadows, expertly tackling David before he could escape with the treasure.***

■ Your story has potential but needs more development in several areas. You've created interesting characters but their motivations aren't clear enough. The treasure hunt feels rushed - try slowing down key moments to build tension. The ending comes too quickly without enough build-up to David's betrayal. Focus on adding more details about the deep-sea environment and the challenges of the mission. Show us more about Sally's emotions and thoughts throughout her journey.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the scene where Sally and David discover the treasure, focusing on describing the deep-sea environment, their equipment, and both characters' reactions to finding it.

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. This Adventurer named Sally was staring at the map with ~~shock and amazement~~ [awe and disbelief]. The treasure was hidden in the deepest part of the sea and ~~the treasure was~~ [it was] now worth billions of dollars.

#2 She decided to look for it but then she realised, she didn't have a submarine. She wouldn't give up though, so she looked for someone that believed in her, but no one aided her except for one person that gave her 10 of the million dollars she needed. However, on ~~one faithful day~~ [one fateful day] a rich marine biologist whose name was David decided to help her. So, he hired some men, and they built a submarine ~~but when they tested it, but~~ [and when they tested it,] it did not work. Later, after numerous tries it finally worked. ~~So,~~ Sally and David ~~they~~ went down to the Mariana trench. ~~They went down in their swimsuits and then they found the treasure!~~ [Descending in their diving gear, they finally discovered the treasure!]

#3 Sally was ecstatic ~~she~~ [and] tried to lift the treasure, but it was far too heavy. Sally said she would get a grappling hook and slowly swam to the submarine. However, when she came back David was clutching the treasure in his grappling hook. David grinned smugly and said, "NOW THE TREASURE IS MINE," he cackled. Sally was shocked ~~she couldn't believe her ears!~~ [, unable to believe what she was hearing!] Then ~~crazily~~ [suddenly] the person that offered her ~~\$10~~ [£8] took David to the ground and knocked him out. They brought him on the ship and tied him up. As they rose up to the surface~~,~~ Sally proudly put the treasure on the top of the submarine and slid down ~~happily~~ [happily].

□ 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 atmospheric opening with vivid sensory details
- Effectively builds suspense through dramatic irony

Weakness: Limited context setting → Your opening lacks vital background about the setting and time period. While you mention "alien sunset," you don't establish why there's an alien presence or what makes this sculpture significant to the story.

Exemplar: ***In the eerie purple glow of the alien sunset that had become Earth's new normal, the crowd gathered at Central Square gasped at the metallic sculpture, unaware it was created by the very beings who had invaded their planet three months ago.***

#2: "Mr Golem, as the statue unfolded into a living beast the crowd was frightened and then ran for their life."

Strengths:

- Introduces the main antagonist effectively
- Creates immediate tension through transformation

Weakness: Rushed pacing → Your description of the transformation feels hasty. The moment when the statue comes to life needs more detail to help readers visualise this crucial scene.

Exemplar: ***Mr Golem's metallic surface began to crack and shift, each piece reorganising itself like a giant puzzle until the statue transformed into a towering beast that cast long shadows over the terrified crowd.***

#3: "Don new that he only had a few seconds, but he knew the answer and pressed the second button."

Strengths:

- Creates tension through time pressure
- Shows quick thinking by the protagonist

Weakness: Underdeveloped resolution → Your ending feels abrupt. We don't understand how Don knew which button to choose or what made the second button the right choice.

Exemplar: *Don's heart raced as the seconds ticked by, but remembering the Golem's weakness to water from his science textbook, he confidently pressed the second button, knowing it would flood the cage.*

■ Your story has an interesting premise about a mysterious Golem and a quick-thinking hero. However, you need to develop your characters more deeply. Don appears suddenly without proper introduction, and his connection to the events isn't clear. Try adding more details about why he's at the Empire State Building and how he knows about the buttons. Your story would be stronger if you showed the relationship between the Golem's appearance and Don's solution. Consider adding more scenes that build up to the climax rather than rushing to the conclusion.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the scene where Don discovers the buttons, focusing on his thought process and adding specific details about why he chooses the second button over the first one.

Score: 37/50

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. #2 ~~Mr Golem, as the statue unfolded into a living beast the crowd was frightened and then ran for their life.~~ [As Mr Golem's statue form began to unfold into a living beast, the terrified crowd fled for their lives.] As Golem watched them cower and run, He [he] walked ~~our~~ [out] slowly and made a mighty roar as loud as a lion and slowly chased the crowd. Meanwhile somewhere in New York, a 20-year-old boy named Don was watching the news and he saw ~~it~~ [the beast] ~~the~~ [on] big ~~beast~~ [screen]. Then he told ~~the~~ [his] roommate Rant, and they decided to evacuate the building. ~~It was~~ [They were] too late ~~the~~ [as] Golem had grown. He had grown so big he could climb the Empire State building in two steps. Then suddenly the Golem (not that he noticed) put his foot down on his hand and ~~it and~~ squished it into nothing. Rant said, "go on your own" So Don ran. He knew he had to put a stop to it, so he went to where it all started. When he got there, he noticed a few buttons, so he walked there but ~~the~~ suddenly a cage fell on top of him but thankfully he could reach the buttons. One of them said "if you press this button, it will set the cage on fire but then it will lift the cage. The second button says it will fill the cage to the brim for 5 minutes but then the cage will open. #3 ~~Don new~~ [Don knew] that he only had a few seconds, but he knew the answer and pressed the second button. The ~~caged~~ [cage] opened and the world was saved.

□ INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 Selected part: "For example, just very recently my bike chain fell off a cog, so my dad said "try to fix the bike chain yourself" so I took a stick and tried to fix it, but it didn't work."

Strengths:

- Provides a concrete personal example to illustrate the point
- Shows clear cause-and-effect thinking through the story sequence

Weaknesses: Depth of reflection → The response focuses mainly on describing what happened without exploring how this experience shaped your problem-solving mindset or what specific lessons you learned from it beyond the immediate situation.

Exemplar: *When my bike chain fell off, my dad encouraged me to solve it independently. Though my first attempt with a stick failed, this experience taught me to persist and think creatively when facing mechanical challenges.*

#2 Selected part: "Well, every night at dinner we do something called grateful where we say what we were grateful for today."

Strengths:

- Shares a meaningful daily family ritual
- Connects the tradition to emotional wellbeing

Weaknesses: Detail development → Your response would benefit from sharing specific examples of what family members typically express gratitude for and how this practice has impacted your family relationships over time.

Exemplar: *During our nightly gratitude ritual, I might share my appreciation for my sister helping me with homework, while my mum expresses thanks for our family spending quality time together at dinner.*

#3 Selected part: "My dad probably inspires me the most because when I spend time with him, he always manages to teach me something indirectly or directly."

Strengths:

- Shows appreciation for parental guidance
- Recognises different teaching approaches

Weaknesses: Supporting evidence → While you mention your dad teaches you things, you could strengthen this by providing specific examples of lessons learned and how they've influenced your personal growth.

Exemplar: *My dad inspires me through his teaching style - like when he helped me understand patience by guiding me through building my first model aeroplane step by step, showing me that complex tasks require careful attention.*

■ Your responses would benefit from more detailed examples and deeper reflection on how these experiences have shaped your character and outlook. Try expanding each answer by including specific instances and their impact on your personal growth. Consider adding more emotional depth by sharing how these family interactions make you feel and what lasting impressions they've left on you.

Score: 37/50

Section 2:

#1 How has your family shaped the way you approach challenges in life? Can you give a specific example? My family ~~my dad~~ [, particularly my dad,] specifically always told me to think sideways and to never give up even if it is difficult. For example, just very recently my bike chain ~~fell of~~ [fell off] a cog, so my dad said "try to fix the bike chain yourself" ~~so~~ [and] I took a stick and tried to fix it, but it didn't work. However, I tried again ~~kept on trying~~ to push the chain up, but it didn't work. ~~So,~~ [Then] my dad told me to try a different way. ~~So,~~ [Subsequently,] I lifted the bike chain with the stick and moved it to the front of the bike and it worked! ~~So,~~ [After that,] I did it and we rode off to continue our bike ride.

#2 What is one tradition or habit in your family that you cherish the most, and why? ~~Well,~~ [In our family,] every night at dinner we do something called ~~grateful~~ [gratitude] ~~were~~ [where] we say what we were grateful for today. I really enjoy it because we get to hear about my family's day and if we enjoyed it or not. It also makes me feel happy that I'm not the only one that is thinking about my day.

#3 Who in your family inspires you the most, and what lessons have you learned from them? My dad probably inspires me the most because when I spend time with him, he always manages to teach me something indirectly or directly. Some lessons I have learnt from him are to never give up, to take notes when needed, figuring things out and learning how to talk to people.