

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 to listen. The wind outside howled, shaking the cabin walls with all its might. Emma stared down at the map, her heart pounding."

Strengths:

- Vivid sensory details through touch and sound
- Strong mood setting with weather elements

Weakness: Limited character depth → Your opening focuses heavily on external elements without giving readers insight into Emma's emotional state beyond surface-level descriptions like "heart pounding."

Your character's thoughts could be deepened: "She traced the ridges of the map with trembling fingers, each groove telling stories of storms and secrets that made her question everything she'd ever believed about treasure hunting."

#2: "The path to the treasure was only a day's journey, but the jungle was dangerous. If she left now, she might get to the temple before the storm reached its peak. If she waited, she risked being trapped in the cabin as the storm passed, losing both the treasure and precious time."

Strengths:

- Clear presentation of stakes
- Well-structured internal conflict

Weakness: Underdeveloped setting details → Your description of the jungle's danger feels general without specific threats that would make the scenario more compelling.

Consider enhancing the setting: "The temple lay just beyond the River of Shadows, where quicksand pools and poisonous vines had claimed many treasure seekers before her."

#3: "Emma took a deep breath and looked out at the storm, her heart torn. Would she risk her life on a journey to the treasure – or stay and wait in her cabin, safe but empty handed? The wind howled louder as lightning struck onto nearby trees."

Strengths:

- Strong tension building
- Effective use of rhetorical question

Weakness: Rushed climactic moment → Your ending feels abrupt without showing Emma's decision-making process or final choice.

Try developing the ending: "Emma's fingers clutched the worn leather map as memories of her father's words echoed in her mind: 'Sometimes the greatest treasure isn't what's buried, but the wisdom to know when to stay alive to hunt another day.'"

■ Your narrative creates an engaging adventure scenario but needs deeper emotional resonance. You've built strong external conflict through the storm, but your character's motivations remain unclear. Why does Emma need this treasure so desperately? What personal stakes drive her beyond simple wealth? Adding these layers would make your readers more invested in her choice. Your pacing works well, but each scene could benefit from more specific details about the jungle environment and its unique dangers.

Actionable task: Rewrite the third paragraph focusing on Emma's personal connection to the treasure by including a brief flashback or memory that explains why this particular quest matters to her.

Score: 42/50

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 to listen. The wind outside howled, shaking the cabin walls with all its might. Emma stared down at the map, her heart pounding.

#2 The path to the treasure was only a day's journey, but the jungle was dangerous. If she left now, she might get to the temple before the storm reached its peak. If she waited, she risked being trapped in the cabin as the storm passed, losing both the treasure and precious time.

The wind howled again, and Emma shivered. She knew the jungle well enough to know how dangerous it could be in a storm. Fallen trees, flooding rivers, and deadly animals seeking shelter. But the map – the treasure – it was so close.

Her fingers tightened around the map. She imagined the golden chest hidden under the temple's floor, the jewels that could possibly change her life. But the storm wasn't waiting for her, it was already there. She could hear the distant rumbling and the rain pounding on the battered roof.

#3 Emma took a deep breath and looked out at the storm, her heart torn. Would she risk her life on a journey to the treasure – or stay and wait in her cabin, safe but empty handed? The wind howled louder as ~~lighting~~ [lightning] struck onto nearby trees.

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. Before them was a massive sculpture, towering over them like a strange, shimmering giant." Strengths:

- Your opening creates an immediate sense of mystery and tension
- Your use of sensory details effectively sets the scene

Weakness: Limited context → Your opening lacks background information about what the crowd fears most. Without this context, the impact of their fear is lessened. The phrase "the one thing they feared most" leaves readers wondering what this refers to.

Exemplar: ***In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gasped at the intricate sculpture, their minds racing back to the metallic beings that had first appeared in their skies three months ago. Before them stood their creation, towering like a strange, shimmering giant.***

#2 "The sculpture was unlike anything you seen before. Its form seemed to change when you weren't looking directly at it. One moment it looked like a towering tree, its branched reaching out for the sky." Strengths:

- Your description of the changing sculpture creates intrigue
- Your use of multiple perspectives helps readers visualise the sculpture

Weakness: Inconsistent point of view → Your writing switches between second person ("you") and third person narrative voices. The phrase "anything you seen before" breaks the story's flow and pulls readers out of the moment.

Exemplar: ***The sculpture was unlike anything they had ever witnessed. Its form shifted when eyes weren't fixed upon it, morphing from a towering tree with branches reaching skyward into something more sinister.***

#3 "Then, without a warning, the sculpture moved. Not a little – a lot. The ground shook beneath their feet, and the air grew thick. It was coming to life." Strengths:

- Your build-up of tension is effective
- Your short sentences create impact

Weakness: Underdeveloped climax → Your revelation of the sculpture's movement needs more detail. The phrases "Not a little - a lot" and "It was coming to life" feel too simple for such a crucial moment.

Exemplar: *Then, without warning, the sculpture's surface rippled like liquid metal. The ground trembled as its massive form twisted and reshaped itself, sending waves of motion through the earth that knocked people off their feet. Ancient stone transformed into living metal before their eyes.*

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating an atmospheric alien encounter. You need to develop the background of your story's world more fully. Try adding details about why the crowd has gathered and what experiences they've had with aliens before. Your descriptions could benefit from more specific details about the sculpture's appearance and its transformation. Consider developing the emotional reactions of individual characters in the crowd to make the scene more personal and engaging.

Actionable task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing on specific details of how the sculpture transforms and how individuals in the crowd react to this change.

Score: 41/50

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. Before them was a massive sculpture, towering over them like a strange, shimmering giant. The surface was smooth, yet it seemed to ripple with colours – blue, purple, orange and green – shifting in the strange light of the sun ~~the~~ [that] hung low in the sky.

#2 No one knew who created it, ~~needless to say~~ [let alone], how it was made. It simply just appeared overnight, as if it had appeared in thin air. No one had seen it being built, and no one knew what it was made of. Some thought it was a gift from the sky, others thought it was a warning.

~~The sculpture was unlike anything you seen before~~ [The sculpture was unlike anything they had ever seen]. Its form seemed to change when ~~you weren't~~ [they weren't] looking directly at it. One moment it looked like a towering tree, ~~its branched~~ [its branches] reaching out for the sky. The next, it resembled a monstrous face, ~~its hallow~~ [its hollow] eyes watching every ~~moment~~ [movement].

The crowds grew restless, eyes darting from the sculpture to one another, unsure whether to be excited or terrified. Murmurs filled the air, but no one dared to speak loudly. Everyone felt the strange tension in the air.

#3 As the sun dipped lower, a strange, humming noise began to fill the air. It wasn't loud, but it was there, buzzing in the background like a distant storm. The crowd shifted uneasily, trying to determine what was making the sound.

Then, without a warning, the sculpture moved.

Not a little – a lot. The ground shook beneath their feet, and the air grew thick. It was coming to life. Then, from the darkness beyond the sculpture, something else moved. Something much larger.

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1: "After not being able to obtain good marks... There is always a second chance." Strengths:

- Shows personal growth and resilience
- Effectively portrays family support

Weaknesses: Poor paragraph structure → Your writing jumps between different emotions without smooth transitions. The sentence "My family were equally devastated, mourning around about the bad mark" feels disconnected from the next point about hope.

Exemplar: *After receiving disappointing marks, I felt hopeless. However, my family's unwavering support helped me realise that one failed test didn't define my future.*

#2: "Travelling around is a once in a year occasion... special occasion." Strengths:

- Creates vivid imagery of family bonding
- Demonstrates appreciation for family time

Weaknesses: Limited detail development → Your description lacks specific examples of activities and experiences in Bali. The phrase "engage in fun activities" could be expanded with particular moments that made these travels memorable.

Exemplar: *During our annual family trips, we create lasting memories through activities like exploring ancient temples in Bali and sharing meals at local markets.*

#3: "In my family, my father is like a light... aiming to get a scholarship." Strengths:

- Uses meaningful metaphor to describe father
- Shows clear understanding of life lessons

Weaknesses: Unclear progression → Your writing shifts abruptly between your father's background and your own goals. The connection between "I know the world will sometime end" and the surrounding ideas needs better development.

Exemplar: *My father's determination to succeed despite his hardships inspires me to pursue my own academic goals with the same resilience.*

■ Your responses would benefit from more specific examples and detailed descriptions of experiences. Consider expanding on how your family supported you during difficult times, what activities you enjoyed in Bali, and how your father's specific actions inspire you. Add more

details about your personal reactions and feelings in each situation. Make your writing longer by including these specific moments and your reflections on them.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 After ~~not being able to obtain~~ [failing to obtain] good marks, I gave up. There was no hope. I was doing so well in school, and in the final test, I flunked. ~~My family were~~ [My family was] equally devastated, mourning around ~~about~~ the bad mark. However, they never let me give up and not care about life. They still had hope in me. They had hope about me getting ~~in~~ [into] a scholarship. Although I failed a test, it still wasn't the end of the world. Sometimes, as they would say, don't give up. Things don't have to go as planned. There is always a second chance.

#2 ~~Travelling around is a once in a year occasion~~ [We travel once a year]. On that one day, my parents ~~will~~ [would] travel around with me to our grandparents house in China. We get to relax there before travelling to other places in the world. Just like now, I am in Bali. We get to enjoy ourselves, spend family time together, and engage in fun activities. It is a time for a break, a break that would last forever, with every time creating a valuable memory that would last forever. Although our family is not in the 'rich' category, we still travel around on ~~the~~ this very special occasion.

#3 In my family, my father is like a light shining brightly in a group of dark clouds. Whenever hope dims out, he always brings back our relationship and happiness, determined to not let it go. He comes from a family, with only one mother. He has learned to endure the hardest and hopeless times where nothing can go the way he wants it to go. Just like how he endures with pain, I know the world will sometime end, and that people you like or meet now, can never go with you forever. I also learned to always try my best. Although my father didn't have enough money to eat, he studied properly, aiming for the best school in the country, just like me, aiming to get a scholarship.