

□ 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:

- Your opening line creates immediate intrigue with the contrast between beauty and fear
- Your use of sensory details with "soft glow" helps set the atmospheric tone

Weakness: Limited context → While your opening is engaging, you haven't given readers enough details about what the feared creator is. The phrase "the one thing they feared most" is too vague and leaves readers wondering what exactly the threat is.

Exemplar: *In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gasped at the intricate sculpture, unaware it was crafted by the spectral beings whose very existence had once brought their world to its knees.*

#2: "The hooded figures evaded the crowds' delayed attacks, elusive but unlike last time, not belligerent." Strengths:

- Your comparison to past events adds depth to the story
- Your word choice "elusive" effectively describes the movement

Weakness: Unclear motivation → You haven't shown why these figures are acting differently this time. The phrase "unlike last time, not belligerent" needs more background about what happened before.

Exemplar: *The hooded figures glided past the crowds' attacks with an almost peaceful grace - a stark change from their violent invasion decades ago when they first sought the stone.*

#3: "They saw their reflections strangled by some unknown force, and the stone flying away." Strengths:

- Your use of imagery with "reflections strangled" creates a vivid picture
- Your pacing builds tension effectively

Weakness: Rushed ending → The conclusion feels too quick. The phrases "stone flying away" and "army of ghosts dead" don't give enough weight to what seems to be an important moment.

Exemplar: *Their reflections twisted in agony as the ancient defences claimed them, the precious stone drifting further into the depths - taking with it their last hope of resurrection.*

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating an intriguing supernatural conflict, but needs more development in several areas. You can strengthen your story by adding more background details about the spectral beings and their history with humans. The relationship between the stone and both sides needs to be clearer to help readers understand the stakes. Try to slow down key moments, especially the ending, to give important events more impact. Your descriptions are good, but they need to be balanced with more context about why things are happening.

Actionable task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing on showing the aliens' emotional connection to the stone and why its loss matters so much to them.

Score: 42/50

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. The portal through the cosmic rift was open. The barriers were inundated with the seas of space. The interstellar guardians were maimed. The crowd of survivors were still focused on the statue, its eyes rolling towards the centre of the sunset. As this happened, a vortex grew in the sunset replacing the sun entirely, a shattered crystal falling out. Voices of the souls sacrificing them in the last war screeched for immediate action. But no reply came.

#2 Dark hooded figures, wearing grim black masks arose from the rupture of spacetime. They needed the stone. The very same stone that lost the last war for them. ~~The hooded figures evaded the crowds' delayed attacks,~~ [The hooded figures gracefully evaded the crowds' desperate attacks,] elusive but unlike last time, not belligerent. They would have to get to the international capital, ~~Atlantis~~ [Atlas], to get the jewel.

#3 The humans flicked a switch that made the sky alight with lightning, directing each bolt towards the aliens. From the lightning strikes erupted excruciating tsunamis of flames withering the landscape. The aliens ~~easted~~ [cast] an impenetrable shield warping the direction of the lightning. They directed the wind under them with the shield, and sprinted on the water. The army had reached the defences guarding the precious stone. Unaware about the new defences laid in the

underwater monument, the spectral aliens were immediately met by their first challenge. A tempestuous maelstrom pulled the aliens into the water, a ghastly reminder of their abrupt life. They saw their reflections strangled by some unknown force, and the stone flying away. They saw their life ending a second time. They saw the army of ghosts dead.