## **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. What else was there think about?"

Strengths:

- Vivid sensory detail with "felt the ridges"
- Creates intrigue with mysterious storms

Weakness: Incomplete thought process  $\rightarrow$  Your writing jumps quickly between ideas without fully developing them. The question "What else was there think about?" feels unfinished and needs more detail about what Elanore is actually contemplating.

Exemplar: She traced the ridges of her carved map, wondering if the storms below still whispered their ancient secrets. Her mind wandered to all the mysteries that lay beneath Mystifiea Island, questions that had haunted her since childhood.

#2: "Nothing was heard of this man again. All who had seen something below had crashed or fallen into what seemed to them an endless void."

Strengths:

- Builds tension effectively
- Creates a sense of danger

Weakness: Limited detail development  $\rightarrow$  Your writing introduces an interesting event but doesn't give enough background about the man or what he saw. The mention of others who crashed needs more specific examples to make it more believable.

# Exemplar: The last anyone saw of Captain Morris was his airship descending into the clouds. Like the three explorers before him, he vanished into the endless void, taking his discoveries to the grave.

#3: "She gripped to the wheel tightly, wrapped her shawl over her shoulders then loosened and stepped back to the ground."

Strengths:

- Good action sequence
- Shows character's inner conflict

Weakness: Rushed pacing  $\rightarrow$  Your writing speeds through Elanore's important moment of decision. The sequence of actions needs more of her thoughts and feelings to help readers understand her struggle.

Exemplar: Her fingers tightened around the wheel as doubt and desire warred within her. The shawl settled heavily on her shoulders, a reminder of her duties, yet her heart yearned for adventure. With a heavy sigh, she forced herself to release the wheel and step away.

• Your story has a fascinating premise about a floating island and mysterious storms below. However, you could make your world more real by adding more details about daily life on Mystifiea Island. Try showing how people live, what they eat, and how they travel between islands. Your character Elanore needs deeper development - what makes her different from other cartographers? What drives her to break the rules? Adding these details will help readers care more about her journey. Your story also moves quite quickly through important moments - slow down and let readers experience Elanore's emotions and decisions with her.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the scene where Elanore discovers the abandoned airship, focusing on her internal struggle between duty and desire. Include specific details about what being a cartographer means to her versus her dreams of exploration.

Score: 41/50

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. What else was there think about? [What else was there to think about?] Mystifiea Island placed in [floated in] nothing but stranded in dead sky [the empty sky], if only Elanore wasn't the only person that lay upon it who wondered what lay below.

#2: Many had heard of something being spotted below her island by an air ship. Nothing was heard of this man again. All who had seen something below had crashed or fallen into what seemed to them an endless void. [All who had glimpsed anything below had either crashed or vanished into what appeared to be an endless void.]

#3: Elanore thought otherwiseshe [. She] had one job that was assigned to her and that was to map the island, and occasionally the ally [allied] island Elytra. She longed to explore and chase the

winds in a little airship...If only she could bend destiny, just dent a corner so she could be herself. Three women from Elytra landed an air ship beside her bench—,— [;] she hid beneath it and stared longingly at it. The women carefully stepped out the [of the] door with war declaration papers carefully sitting in their arms. This was ridiculous. After a Mystarian threatened Queen Marsha, King Elytra declared war, again. Elanore ereeped [crept] to the abandoned ship, and folded her fingers across the grip on the steering wheel. Then shot back. No one in any of the islands would approve of a cartographer being an explorerit [; it] was almost unachievable so now she was drawn to a decisionher [: her] social status, not like she had much alreadyor [, or] her personal statusnot [, not] a lot of that either... she didn't have much to lose. She gripped to the wheel tightly, wrapped her shawl over her shoulders then loosened and stepped back to the ground.

# □ 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. Drithvan."

## Strengths:

- Your opening creates a mysterious atmosphere with vivid sensory details
- Your introduction of Drithvan builds intrigue through the crowd's reaction

Weakness: Disconnected story elements  $\rightarrow$  Your opening introduces multiple elements (alien sunset, sculpture, Drithvan) but doesn't establish clear links between them. The sudden mention of Drithvan feels jarring without context about who or what they are.

# Exemplar: In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gathered around the intricate sculpture, unaware that Drithvan, the feared soul-stealer, had crafted it with stolen life force.

#2: "His children were drowned of their being, seeing friends and love intrests grow and die. Their life wasn't living. It was presence."

Strengths:

- Your metaphor about presence vs living is touching
- Your writing shows the emotional toll on the children

Weakness: Unclear character relationships  $\rightarrow$  Your writing doesn't show how the children's situation connects to Drithvan or the curse. The phrase "drowned of their being" needs more context to help readers understand their suffering.

# Exemplar: The curse had trapped his children in endless time - forced to watch as friends aged and died while they remained unchanged, mere shadows of who they once were.

#3: "His fourteen year old daughter looked up him tears drowning her sockets and ran away. 'Isadora wants to run away.' his son Dinnigan's eyes darted after this daft remark."

Strengths:

- Your dialogue adds natural family dynamics
- Your description shows emotional distress effectively

Weakness: Rushed scene development  $\rightarrow$  Your scene jumps between actions without showing the connections. The dialogue feels sudden without showing why Dinnigan makes this comment about Isadora.

Exemplar: Tears streaming down her face, his fourteen-year-old daughter fled from the room. "Isadora's planning to run away," Dinnigan blurted out, his eyes darting nervously between his father and the corridor where his sister had disappeared.

■ Your narrative has created an intriguing supernatural story with deep emotional elements. The curse affecting the family offers rich ground for character development. However, you need to build stronger connections between scenes and clarify the relationships between characters. Try focusing on one main conflict at a time rather than introducing multiple elements at once. Show how each character's actions and emotions link to the curse. Add more details about how Drithvan's power affects daily family life.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the opening paragraph focusing on establishing clear connections between the sculpture, Drithvan, and how it relates to Fonder's curse. Include specific details about how Drithvan's power works.

#### Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the erowd gasped at the intrieate sculpture, unaware it was ereated by the one thing they feared most. Drithvan. [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 - Drithvan.]

Fonder knew unlike the others recognising [recognising] Drithvan's power from long ago, he'd [he had] understood each person he risked the life of, would only make Drivthan [Drithvan] urge for their souls longer. Many of who [those] that knew him and were forever loathing Fonder had passed away but with the curse that lay upon Fonder and his family he could never be forgotten by the laws of life.

He came home the very day his wife Amidala sat lifeless white as a sheet upon the couch. #2 His children were drowned of their being, seeing friends and love intrests grow and die. [His children were drained of their essence, watching friends and love interests grow old and die.] Their life wasn't living. It was presence. Wondering dark halls of finding themselves were once gold to be found now withered away as time moved on.

Fonder remained bright trying to veneer [veil] his mistakes. If only they didn't clutch to his heart. "Hello Finn, or was it Fable oh yes Alfondso." His wife could only utter but a few words, occasionally that had no purpose or depth more than a few words was rare so Fonder smiled and was grateful she spoke in the moment. "Good afternoon Amidala." he replied, as he placed his coat on the rack and slipped his shoes off.

#3 His fourteen year old daughter looked up him tears drowning her soekets and ran away. [His fourteen-year-old daughter looked up at him, tears drowning her sockets, and ran away.] "Isadora wants to run away." his son Dinnigan's eyes darted after this daft remark. [his son Dinnigan said, his eyes darting nervously after this daft remark.] "To be fair she's not the only one, believe me that wasn't me being insecure." Dinnigan ran through the corridor, then stumbled as he staggered to a fall. Fonder raised a brow. Then his stiff frown faded to a malevolent grin.

# □ INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 "My family tends to face things with a determined attitude and don't expect reward, unless crucial like their jobs or promised..." Strengths:

- Shows clear connection between family values and personal behaviour
- Demonstrates resilience through a challenging group situation

Weakness: Limited reflection on personal growth  $\rightarrow$  Your response focuses mainly on describing the situation rather than exploring how your family's determined attitude specifically influenced your approach. The phrase "worked the three days I had by myself" could benefit from deeper reflection on how your family's values helped you persist.

Exemplar: "My family's determined attitude taught me that success comes from putting in consistent effort regardless of recognition, which helped me stay focused during those three days of solo work on the group project."

#2 "Every summer we go to the beach..." Strengths:

- Vivid description of beach environment
- Clear emotional connection to the tradition

Weakness: Surface-level exploration of tradition's impact  $\rightarrow$  Your response describes the setting but doesn't fully explore why this tradition matters beyond being an escape. The phrase "like an escape" could be developed to show how this tradition strengthened family bonds or shaped your outlook.

Exemplar: "Our beach tradition became more than just an escape during COVID-19 - it transformed into precious moments of connection with my family, teaching me to find joy in simple shared experiences."

#3 "I get inspired by many people in my family, but my dad really stands out..." Strengths:

- Clear examples of father's influence
- Shows understanding of cultural values

Weakness: Limited personal reflection  $\rightarrow$  Your response lists what your father teaches but doesn't fully explore how these lessons have shaped you. The phrase "I try to read as much as possible" could include specific ways reading has impacted your life.

# Exemplar: "My father's emphasis on reading opened my eyes to new perspectives and helped me understand the world better, just as his lessons about cultural heritage taught me to appreciate where I come from."

■ Your responses would be more impactful if you delved deeper into how these experiences and relationships have shaped your character and values. Try to include specific examples of how family influences have affected your decisions or changed your perspective. Share more details about how these experiences have helped you grow as a person.

#### 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 tends to face things with a determined attitude and don't [My family tends to face things with a determined attitude and doesn't] expect reward, unless crucial like their jobs or promised. There have been multiple circumstances where this has come in exceptional use to me, but if I were to name one it would be in a group project. I was in a complicated project with three other peers unfortunately they struggled quite a bit and would usually completely abandon me to entertain themselves. [I was working on a complicated project with three other peers who, unfortunately, struggled and often abandoned the work to entertain themselves.] So I worked the three days I had by myself until it was finished. Most fortunately I was rewarded with a good grade along with my group.

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

Every summer we go to the beach, I truly cherish this because during covid it was extremely hard to go places I enjoyed of be with my friends or family. [Every summer we go to the beach, and I truly cherish this because during COVID-19, it was extremely hard to visit places I enjoyed or be with my friends and family.] The beach was a empty landscape no one dared to intrude, besides surfers who would glide across the ocean. Hoved it so much I was determined not to be attached to my screen for however long covid was going to last so for me and my family the beach was like an escape so we really loathed heavy rain. [I loved it so much that I was determined not to be attached to my screen for however long COVID-19 would last, and for my family and me, the beach became our escape, which is why we really loathed heavy rain.] So every time I had online class I'd finish it early in the morning then no question walk to the beach.

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

I get inspired by many people in my family, but my dad really stands out. He encourages me to read young. He also says books possess lots of knowledge, that's why I love reading and I try to read as much as possible. He also tells me to value culture and my background for it's [as it's] a part of who I am and must be passed to generations to come. He also encourages me to be a role model for my sisters because when he was younger is [his] older brother would always play with him, this makes me determined to do the same for my sisters.