

□ 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. The ship lurched, and tumbled into a dance of terror, spinning around quickly in a terrifying spiral."

Strengths:

- Strong sensory details with "felt the ridges" creating vivid imagery
- Creative personification of storms "whispered secrets"

Weakness: Limited build-up of tension → Your opening dives straight into action without establishing the setting or Jessica's motivation. The phrases "dance of terror" and "terrifying spiral" feel sudden without proper context about why she's at sea or what's at stake.

Exemplar: *The worn parchment crinkled beneath Jessica's fingers as she traced the ridges of her father's map, her heart racing as storm clouds gathered ominously above the ship.*

#2 "The cool breeze blew over Jessica's almond brown hair, as she realized she'd been swept on land. The warm sand stuck to her soaked shoes, brushing it off, she trudged forwards."

Strengths:

- Good use of contrasting sensations (cool breeze vs warm sand)
- Clear transition from sea to land

Weakness: Choppy flow → Your sentences feel disconnected. The shift between "soaked shoes" and "brushing it off" needs smoother linking. The description moves too quickly from one action to the next without letting readers feel Jessica's emotional state after surviving the storm.

Exemplar: *The cool breeze rustled Jessica's almond brown hair as she lay on the shore, her shoes waterlogged and heavy with sand as she slowly gathered the strength to stand.*

#3 "Bringing the note, Jessica set sail for home."

Strengths:

- Concise ending that brings closure
- Links back to the theme of family

Weakness: Rushed resolution → Your ending wraps up too quickly after the emotional discovery of the father's note. The impact of finding the note and Jessica's feelings about her father's message aren't fully explored.

Exemplar: *With trembling hands, Jessica tucked her father's note close to her heart and turned her ship towards home, knowing this treasure meant more than any she'd hoped to find.*

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating atmosphere through descriptive language, but needs more emotional depth. The connection between Jessica and her father could be stronger if you showed her feelings throughout the journey, not just at the end. The story would benefit from clearer stakes at the beginning - why this map matters to Jessica personally. Try expanding on Jessica's thoughts during key moments, like when she first sees the torn map or reads her father's words.

Actionable task: Rewrite the scene where Jessica discovers the note, focusing on her emotional reaction and memories of her father that surface in that moment.

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. The ship lurched, and ~~tumbled into a dance of terror, spinning around quickly in a terrifying spiral~~ [plunged into a violent spiral, the deck spinning beneath her feet]. The wind howled ferociously, roaring like a lion in Jessica's ears. The torrential rain cascaded down, pouring on the deck. As a massive shape appeared ahead ~~the darkness engulfed her vision~~ [darkness engulfed her vision], and everything went black.

#2 The cool breeze blew over Jessica's almond brown hair, ~~as she realized she'd been swept on land~~ [as consciousness returned and she found herself swept ashore]. The warm sand stuck to her soaked shoes, ~~brushing it off~~ [and as she brushed it away], she trudged forwards. The storm had taken her only clue to the legendary treasure of ~~Island desolate~~ [Island Desolate], the map. The wind hummed, like an apology, and blew towards a tattered parchment. The map! ~~Rushing towards it, Jessica realised~~ [Jessica rushed forward and saw] it had been ripped, brutally across, like a dagger across a heart.

#3 Gathering the ~~teared~~ [torn] remains, a small note dropped out. It read: *If you (Jessica) are reading this, then I just want to tell you something: I shouldn't have left home in search of the Desolate Treasure, but regretting it now does nothing. Please forgive me for abandoning you. I am sorry. Sincerely, your father, David ~~smith~~ [Smith].* ~~Bringing~~ [Clutching] the note, Jessica set sail for home.