

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong sensory details with the description of the map's texture and appearance
- Effective establishment of mystery through the bottle discovery

Weakness: Limited character introduction → Your opening focuses mainly on the map but gives little insight into Chloe's personality or background. The phrase "she felt the ridges" could be expanded to show more of Chloe's traits and emotions.

Exemplar: *Chloe's heart raced as she felt the ridges of the ancient map, her curiosity growing with each mysterious symbol she traced.*

#2 (Third paragraph) Strengths:

- Good portrayal of internal conflict
- Natural progression of Chloe's thoughts about the island

Weakness: Rushed emotional development → Your description of Chloe's evening shows her preoccupation but doesn't fully explore her feelings. The line "completely immersed in her own thoughts" could delve deeper into her specific worries and excitement.

Exemplar: *As Chloe walked home, her mind buzzed with endless possibilities - would the island hold ancient secrets, or was she chasing an impossible dream?*

#3 (Final paragraph) Strengths:

- Effective buildup of tension with the storm
- Clear resolution with meaningful consequences

Weakness: Underdeveloped conclusion → Your ending wraps up quickly after the rescue. The phrase "never would" doesn't fully address what Chloe learned from her adventure.

Exemplar: *Chloe hugged her mother tightly, finally understanding that some mysteries weren't worth risking your life for - especially when people who love you could get hurt.*

■ Your story has a fascinating premise about a mysterious map and speaking storms. You've created an intriguing setup with the bottle discovery and map translation. However, you could

make Chloe's journey more meaningful by showing how this adventure changes her. Try adding more details about her feelings throughout the story. Your dialogue helps move the plot forward, but you could use it more to show the relationships between characters. Consider making the ending stronger by showing what Chloe gained from this experience beyond just learning not to be reckless.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing on Chloe's emotional growth and what she learned from this adventure. Include specific details about how she feels about her mother, Bill, and Alice after their help in rescuing her.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

She felt the ridges of the map she was carving and wondered if the storms below still whispered secrets to those who dared listen. #1 ~~Chloe carefully examined the map, her slender fingers brushing over the yellowed gentle coarse paper softly.~~ [Chloe carefully examined the map, her slender fingers brushing softly over the yellowed, coarse paper.] She tried to read the carefully written words but ~~the serpentine scheming lines made no sense for her.~~ [the serpentine lines made no sense to her.] Along the bottom of the page there was a line of thunderbolts running along it. She had found the paper in a bottle on the nearby seashore and she now watched the waves lap up the sand greedily. Chloe was wondering if she could find someone who could translate or decode whatever the strange map said. Suddenly someone came to mind, her best friend Alice.

When Chloe arrived at Alice's house, she was there to greet her at the door. Chloe showed her the map and asked her if she understood what it said. Alice knew at least five different languages, so Chloe believed that she had the best chance of anyone to understand what the map said. Alice said that she did understand what the map said and that the title read 'Map Of The Way To The Land Where The Storms Speak'. Alice pronounced all the different locations that the map showed carefully along with the last location. Alice gave her thoughts that the island did not really exist but should, according to the map, be just a few hundred metres ~~out from~~ [out from] the shore. Jokingly, Alice said that Chloe should take a boat and find it. Except, Alice knew how inquisitive Chloe always was so she told her that she would research the topic of the map for her. Chloe suddenly realised that she did want to find it, but even if she did, how would she get there?

#2 Chloe walked back to her house completely immersed in her own thoughts. She was pondering how she could get to the island and prove that it was real. Chloe ate her dinner thinking of a solution to her problem and her mother became quite worried that she was sick or unwell. When

she went to bed, Chloe tossed and turned for hours before she could sleep. Just as she was slipping back into the comforting blanket of sleep, she had an idea of how to get to the island.

When Chloe woke up in the morning, she still remembered her idea from last night. She slowly formed a risky but plausible plan as she got ready for the day. By the time she finished breakfast she was ready to put the plan into action. She found Bill Majil in his backyard and Chloe asked if she could borrow his boat. Reluctantly he agreed and Chloe raced off to the beach once more. She quickly untied the rope tying the boat to the dock and jumped on. She used the paddles to row out to the sea. Relentlessly, Chloe kept on rowing until she had nearly ~~ran~~ [run] out of sight of the shore. Suddenly her phone started buzzing interrupting the serene silence, almost making Chloe jump. It was a call from Alice, "~~hi~~" [Hi]. "Chloe [,] do not try to find the island. My research told me the map is one of the hundreds that were made a century ago when the rumor of the island was going around. So just try to find it because it is also about to have a thunderstorm". Just as she said the last word, Chloe realised that she had lost sight of the land and that the whole sea around her looked exactly the same.

#3 Chloe tried to start paddling in the direction where she believed she had come from but her arms complained in exhaustion. To make things worse, lightning struck around a hundred metres from her and it started to pour. Chloe had no idea where she was now and her heart pounded in fear and apprehension. Suddenly a call sounded from her left, she looked over and found Bill with his father in their second boat paddling rapidly over to her. They tied her boat to theirs and then started the journey back to the shore. When they got back on land, Chloe found her mother at the house in a state of great distress. When her mother found her ~~she looked as if someone had just wrapped a warm blanket around her.~~ [her mother's relief wrapped around her like a warm blanket.] Then Chloe's mother made her promise that she would never go out to see [sea] in the middle of a storm alone for no reason again, and Chloe knew she never would.

□ 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 intrigue and mystery
- Your use of sensory details with "soft glow" sets the scene effectively

Weakness: Limited Context → Your opening line, while captivating, leaves readers without enough background about the setting or characters. The phrase "the one thing they feared most" needs more detail to help readers understand why the aliens are feared.

Exemplar: ***In the soft glow of the alien sunset, the crowd gathered at the city's renowned art gallery, gasping at the intricate sculpture, unaware it was created by the beings whose arrival had terrified Earth just months ago.***

#2 "Jack was extremely inquisitive about this piece of art so he strode over to one of the guards and asked who had made the sculpture."

Strengths:

- Your character shows clear motivation
- Your writing moves the plot forward naturally

Weakness: Character Development → Your portrayal of Jack lacks emotional depth. The text tells us he is "extremely inquisitive" but doesn't show why he's so interested or what draws him to the sculpture specifically.

Exemplar: ***Jack's hands trembled with excitement as he approached the guard, unable to shake off the feeling that this sculpture held secrets beyond human capability.***

#3 "Jack tried to run as fast as he could but the alien seemed to have inhumane speed and in moments the alien was next to him."

Strengths:

- Your writing creates tension
- Your pacing builds suspense effectively

Weakness: Scene Development → Your chase scene moves too quickly without building enough suspense. The phrases "tried to run" and "alien was next to him" need more descriptive elements to create a more vivid picture.

Exemplar: *Jack's feet pounded against the polished floor as he darted between display cases, but the alien's shadow stretched before him, its otherworldly speed closing the gap between them with each heartbeat.*

■ Your story has an interesting premise about art and aliens that draws readers in. You could enhance your narrative by developing the relationship between humans and aliens more deeply. Try adding more details about why humans fear aliens, yet admire their art. Your chase scene could benefit from more emotional reactions from Jack. Consider including more dialogue between characters to reveal information naturally rather than through narrative exposition.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the chase scene (paragraph 5) focusing on Jack's emotional state and physical sensations during the pursuit. Include specific details about the gallery setting and how it affects his escape attempt.

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.

Everyone was so amazed by the sculpture that there was a large period of silence for a few minutes and then finally they started to clear away as a new crowd poured in. ~~The guards ushered people in and out of the room and every few seconds there would be an amazed gasp.~~ [The guards guided visitors through the room as gasps of amazement echoed every few seconds.] Jack had been watching the sculpture for a few minutes now but he could feel and almost sense the ~~foreignity~~ [foreignness] in the sculpture. It depicted a man chasing a dog in a park but all the surroundings were matched so perfectly that there seemed to be some kind of perfection that would have seemed unachievable by a human.

#2 ~~Jack was extremely inquisitive about this piece of art so he strode over to one of the guards and asked who had made the sculpture.~~ [Burning with curiosity about the sculpture's origins, Jack strode over to one of the guards to enquire about its creator.] Jack decided that once he found the creator of the art piece then he would try to find other artworks and make other artworks inspired by his or hers. The guard told him that he did not know and told him to go to find the book at the

front of the art exhibition which listed every piece of art that had been or was currently inside. ~~So Jack walked back to the entrance and found the book.~~ [Jack made his way back to the entrance, where he located the exhibition catalogue.] He had to search through the book for five whole minutes just to find the sculpture. It turned out that the name of the sculpture was, 'harmony'. Except the credit for the creator was anonymous. This was incredibly unusual because Jack knew that, to register their own art piece in, the creator had to list their name and details on a special book. So how could the art piece be anonymous?

Jack was not deterred from his determination to find out who had made the sculpture even though it was not on the display book. He decided to try and find someone who might know more about the sculpture. He pondered on this topic for some time and then eventually he realised an obvious answer. Of course, why did he not think of it! He should just ask the people at the register to get into the art exhibition. So he walked over and casually asked a very queer looking man at the front if he knew who had created the sculpture named 'harmony'. Suspiciously [,] he walked over to the back counter and scrolled through the records of the art exhibition. He did this for a few minutes and then he abashedly said out loud to Jack that the artwork seemed to have been made by an alien. As soon as the cursed words came out of his mouth something emerged behind him and strangled him. Jack looked over alarmedly and saw something with coarse blue skin, malevolent red eyes of fire and eerie green hair. Suddenly Jack knew what it was, the alien.

~~#3 After strangling the man the alien was now looking aggressively at Jack!~~ [Having dispatched the man, the alien turned its fierce gaze towards Jack.] ~~Jack tried to run as fast as he could but the alien seemed to have inhumane speed and in moments the alien was next to him.~~ [Jack bolted towards the exit, but the alien's inhuman speed brought it alongside him within seconds.] Jack let out a yelp as the alien tried to grab him but missed by centimetres. Jack decided that running would not help him and instead started to slow down. The alien started to circle Jack like a cat prowling around a mouse. At any second the alien could leap out at him and Jack would have no time to react or run. Jack felt sweat beads sliding down the side of his head. What could he do? At that moment the alien stiffened. It reared back like a cat ready to pounce. Jack closed his eyes. He heard the alien's feet leave the ground. Except after a few seconds he still felt nothing. Slowly and apprehensively, Jack opened his eyes. He saw the alien levitating in front of him and above him was the strangest vehicle Jack had ever seen. It was a floating rectangular box, had neon green stripes along the sides and had sharp edges protruding from the back of the vehicle. Suddenly the alien started to disappear and then the vehicle started to fly away as well. Jack let out a deep sigh of relief. He would never be able to tell anyone of his adventure that had occurred today.

□ INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 "My family has shaped the way I approach challenges in life in a vast array of ways. One way is that I come prepared whenever I can for the challenge...big reaction to a big challenge."

Strengths:

- Clear connection between family influence and practical approach to challenges
- Good use of contrasting examples (small vs big challenges)

Weaknesses: Lack of depth in preparation strategy → Your response could benefit from specific details about how you prepare for challenges. The phrase "come prepared" is too general and needs concrete examples of preparation methods your family taught you.

Exemplar: ***"My family taught me to prepare for challenges by creating step-by-step plans and gathering necessary resources, just like when my father showed me how to break down my science project into manageable tasks."***

#2 "The one tradition in my family that I cherish the most is when my whole family gathers together on special occasions..."

Strengths:

- Genuine emotional connection expressed
- Clear reason for valuing the tradition

Weaknesses: Limited description of the tradition → Your response needs more vivid details about these gatherings. The phrase "go somewhere and eat" doesn't paint a picture of these special moments.

Exemplar: ***"Our family gatherings are filled with laughter as we share stories over steaming dishes of our favourite foods, with my grandmother's special curry taking centre stage at every celebration."***

#3 "The person in my family that inspires me the most is my grandma..."

Strengths:

- Personal connection clearly shown
- Good use of specific example with chocolate incident

Weaknesses: Surface-level life lessons → Your response could dive deeper into how these lessons changed your behaviour. The phrase "practice makes perfect" needs real-life examples of how your grandmother demonstrated this.

Exemplar: *"My grandmother showed me the value of practice through her dedication to mastering watercolour painting, spending hours perfecting each brush stroke until she could create beautiful landscapes."*

■ Your responses show genuine personal reflection but need more specific details and examples to bring your experiences to life. Try to include more sensory details and specific moments that show these family influences. Your answers could be longer by adding more real-life situations that demonstrate how these family lessons have shaped you.

Score: 43/50

Section 2:

How has your family shaped the way you approach challenges in life? Can you give a specific example? ~~My family has shaped the way I approach challenges in life in a vast array of ways.~~ [My family has profoundly influenced how I approach life's challenges in numerous ways.] One way is that I come prepared whenever I can for the challenge. This means that I will not be completely surprised and have almost no way to solve the challenge. Another way my family has changed the way I approach challenges in life is that I should give a small reaction to a small challenge and a big reaction to a big challenge. This is because if the challenge is only a small one then I should not overreact and get really upset and stressed, similarly if the challenge is a large one then I should not just ignore it but try to solve it. #1 One time I faced a challenge was when at school someone was always trying to annoy me. ~~Everyday~~ [Every day] I came back from school really upset and angry. Then my parents told me that this challenge was only a small one and that I should not be overreacting because of it. Then the next day I went back to school and just ignored the classmate and eventually he stopped after getting no reaction from me.

What is one tradition or habit in your family that you cherish the most, and why? #2 The one tradition in my family that I cherish the most is when my whole family gathers together on special occasions to go somewhere and eat. This is very special to me because this gives me a chance to catch up with my grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins. I only seldom get to see them so when I do I really enjoy it. In my opinion, talking to my family while eating delicious food is one of the best things that you can do in your life. This is why it is the tradition in my family that I cherish the most.

Who in your family inspires you the most, and what lessons have you learned from them? #3 ~~The person in my family that inspires~~ [The family member who inspires] me the most is my grandma and I have learnt many different lessons from her. One of these is of course that practise makes perfect. This is important because if you want to achieve or get good something you almost always need to practise to do so. Another lesson that I learnt from my grandma is that lying is not okay. I had been eating many chocolates even though she told me not to and I lied when she asked if I had had any. She told me that this is important because if you lie too much in your life then it will begin to become a habitual thing and you should always be truthful anyway because it is right.