

WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "On the last day of summer, Lucas found a glass jar buried in the sand, and inside was a message written in a language he couldn't understand." Strengths:

- Strong opening hook that immediately creates intrigue
- Clear introduction of the main character and central object

Weakness: Limited sensory details → Your opening could benefit from more vivid beach atmosphere. While you mention the sand, you could enhance the scene by including sounds, smells, or temperature of the beach setting. ***"As waves crashed against the shore on the last day of summer, Lucas discovered a mysterious glass jar half-buried in the warm, damp sand."***

#2: "Lucas had always been a dreamer, the kind of kid who could spend hours lost in the rhythmic crash of waves against the shore." Strengths:

- Excellent character development showing Lucas's personality
- Effective use of metaphor with the waves

Weakness: Character depth needs expansion → Your description tells us Lucas is a dreamer but doesn't show how this trait connects to the story's events. The phrase "could spend hours" feels distant from the actual moment. ***"Being a dreamer, Lucas often imagined treasures washing up on shore as he watched the waves dance, each one bringing possibilities of adventure."***

#3: "He wanted to show his parents, but they were too busy packing up the last of their summer things." Strengths:

- Introduces realistic family dynamics
- Creates natural tension in the story

Weakness: Underdeveloped emotional response → Your writing doesn't fully explore Lucas's feelings about his parents being too busy. The phrase "too busy packing" needs more detail about his reaction. ***"Lucas rushed to show his parents the mysterious jar, but his excitement dimmed when he saw them hurriedly packing their beach bags, too absorbed in their task to notice."***

■ Your story presents an intriguing mystery that captures the reader's interest. You could deepen the emotional impact by showing more of Lucas's thoughts and feelings throughout the discovery.

Try adding more details about why this jar matters so much to him. You might also want to build up the contrast between the everyday world of packing up and this magical moment of discovery.

Actionable task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing on Lucas's emotional journey, showing both his excitement about the jar and his disappointment at not being able to share it with his parents.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 On the last day of summer, Lucas found a glass jar buried in the sand, and inside was a message written in a language he couldn't understand.

#2 Lucas had always been a dreamer, ~~the kind of kid who could~~ [who would] spend hours lost in the rhythmic crash of waves against the shore. On the last day of summer, as the golden light stretched long across the beach, he wandered farther than usual, with his bare feet pressing against the sand with an absent-minded rhythm. That's when he found it—half-buried in the sand, the glass jar glinted like a hidden treasure. His heart raced, and he knelt down to get it.

The jar was smooth, its surface covered with salt, but it was the message inside that caught his attention. It was written in a language he couldn't decipher, the flowing script unfamiliar and strange, like something from another world. His fingers traced the jar's edges as if touching it might unlock its mystery.

#3 ~~He wanted to show his parents, but they were too busy packing up the last of their summer things.~~ [Though eager to share his discovery with his parents, they were absorbed in packing up the last of their summer belongings.] Lucas wasn't sure what to do with the jar, but a quiet excitement struck him. Who had left it there? And what was the message?

WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 "Liam had always been a quiet observer. While other children ran through the village streets, their laughter echoing into the night, he would sit alone in the quietness of his room, watching the stars as if wishing to be in another world."

Strengths:

- Your use of contrast between Liam's solitude and other children's activities creates a vivid character image
- Your sensory details with "laughter echoing" help readers feel present in the scene

Weakness: Limited character depth

→ While you show Liam's behaviour, you don't fully explore why he prefers solitude. The phrase "as if wishing to be in another world" hints at deeper feelings but doesn't develop them.

Exemplar: *Liam had always been a quiet observer, finding comfort in solitude while his peers filled the village streets with laughter. In his room, beneath the vast expanse of stars, he felt a connection to something greater than their simple village life.*

#2 "At first, he thought it was just his imagination, how staring at the same sky for too long would make it feel like an illusion."

Strengths:

- Your inclusion of self-doubt adds realism to the supernatural element
- Your natural progression of thoughts flows smoothly

Weakness: Underdeveloped internal dialogue → Your writing touches on Liam's initial reaction but doesn't fully capture his emotional response. The phrase "just his imagination" could lead to deeper exploration of his feelings.

Exemplar: *At first, he questioned his sanity, wondering if his lonely nights of stargazing had finally taken their toll. Yet something deep within told him this was more than just tired eyes playing tricks.*

#3 "But Liam couldn't shake the feeling that the stars were trying to tell him something. Each minute of darkness felt like a secret, a pause in the world, and he was the only one who could see it."

Strengths:

- Your metaphorical language with "pause in the world" creates mystery
- Your ending builds intrigue effectively

Weakness: Incomplete theme development → Your writing introduces the idea of communication through stars but doesn't build enough tension. The phrase "trying to tell him something" needs more specific details about what he suspects.

Exemplar: *But Liam felt certain the stars were sending him a message, speaking in a language only he could understand. Each minute of darkness wasn't just a gap in the night sky - it was a whispered secret meant for him alone, carrying hints of something extraordinary waiting to be discovered.*

■ Your writing creates an intriguing premise about a young boy's unique connection to an astronomical phenomenon. To deepen your narrative, try focusing more on Liam's emotional journey and specific thoughts during these moments. You could strengthen the story by adding more details about how this discovery changes his daily life and outlook. Consider developing the mystery aspect further by dropping subtle hints about why he might be the only one who notices.

Actionable task: Rewrite the middle paragraph focusing on Liam's specific emotional reactions and thoughts during one particular night when he witnesses the stars disappearing, including physical sensations and detailed observations.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 Liam had always been a quiet observer. While other children ran through the village streets, their laughter echoing into the night, he would sit alone in the quietness of his room, watching the stars as if wishing to be in another world.

#2 ~~At first, he thought it was just his imagination, how staring at the same sky for too long would make it feel like an illusion.~~ [he thought his imagination was playing tricks on him, as though staring at the same sky for too long had turned reality into illusion.] But each night, the pattern repeated. One minute, the sky was full of light, the next, it was a vast, empty picture.

#3 ~~But Liam couldn't shake the feeling that the stars were trying to tell him something.~~ [Liam couldn't dismiss the persistent feeling that the stars were trying to tell him something.] Each minute of darkness felt like a secret, a pause in the world, and he was the only one who could see it.

His mother used to say that he had a "deep soul," though he never quite understood what that meant. Liam told his parents, but they didn't believe him as if his observations were simply part of growing up. It troubled him that no one else seemed to notice, not even when he pointed it out to his friends. They laughed, called him weird, and shrugged it off.

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 From "To me, being a good student..." (First answer) Strengths:

- Shows clear understanding of responsibility through mentions of hard work and goal-setting
- Demonstrates awareness of respect towards teachers

Weaknesses: Limited elaboration on personal growth → Your response could benefit from specific examples of how you work hard or face challenges. The phrase "trying my best" appears multiple times without concrete details.

Exemplar: ***"I demonstrate being a good student by actively participating in class discussions, seeking help when needed, and using teacher feedback to improve my assignments."***

#2 From "If I saw someone..." (Second answer) Strengths:

- Shows empathy and willingness to help others
- Considers personal safety while helping others

Weaknesses: Vague action steps → Your response mentions "comfort that person" and "build their confidence" without explaining how you would do these things. Consider adding specific actions you would take.

Exemplar: ***"I would support them by listening to their concerns, walking with them between classes, and helping them report the situation to a teacher or counsellor."***

#3 From "I would want to meet Leonardo da Vinci..." (Third answer) Strengths:

- Shows interest in art history
- Includes thoughtful alternative scenario question

Weaknesses: Surface-level exploration → Your response focuses only on the Mona Lisa when da Vinci had many other remarkable achievements. The questions could dig deeper into his innovative thinking.

Exemplar: *"I would ask da Vinci about his scientific inventions and how they influenced his artistic work, particularly his understanding of human anatomy in paintings."*

■ Your interview answers would be more impactful if you added specific examples from your own experience. When discussing being a good student, you could mention a time when you struggled with a subject but improved through hard work. For the bullying scenario, you could describe actual steps you would take to help someone. Your da Vinci response could explore more of his contributions beyond just painting. Try to make your answers longer by including these real-life examples and deeper reflections.

Score: 37/50

Section 2:

#1 To me, being a good student means that I constantly work hard to achieve my goals and ~~by also~~ [and] trying my best in every challenge I face whether I make multiple mistakes or not. I will always respect my teachers by ~~putting appropriate comments~~ [making respectful comments] and by following instructions without giving attitude. ~~For being~~ [To be] a great student I will also try my best to hand in my homework on time or earlier than the due date. After receiving feedback [,] I would try to improve my writing. I will participate in lessons and focus to enhance my skills to a better level.

#2 If I saw someone who is being treated unfairly, I would stand up for ~~him/her~~ [them] ~~shaking~~ [by pushing] the ~~bully's~~ [bullies] off, then I would comfort that person. When they feel better, I would help them build their confidence and make them stronger so the ~~bully's~~ [bullies] won't be able to oppress ~~him/her~~ [them]. I would also tell a trusted adult so that if anything worse happens [,] the adult can help. I would also try not to get into fights as it also gets me in danger.

#3 I would want to meet Leonardo da Vinci as he is a famous painter and ~~as~~ [because] he drew many famous paintings. If I met him [,] I would ask what led him to draw the Mona Lisa, a

famous artwork [,] and why he drew the faint smile on the Mona Lisa. Another question I would ask would be that if art was not a thing or was not created [,] what would you pick to be your profession.