

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. He had not been too sure what the language was, but he knew the language started with the letter J."

Strengths:

- Strong opening that creates mystery and intrigue
- Good use of specific details about the jar and message

Weakness: Repetitive word choice → The word "language" appears three times in close succession, making your writing sound repetitive. This makes the second sentence less engaging for readers.

Exemplar: ***On the last day of summer, Lucas found a glass jar buried in the sand. Inside was a mysterious message in unfamiliar script, though he recalled it began with the letter J.***

#2: "Lucas regretted it, as he should've paid attention to culture classes at school. Then he remembered. His grandfather had given him a icy blue ring that had the same language engraved on it."

Strengths:

- Links past experiences to present situation
- Introduces personal connection through family heirloom

Weakness: Unclear connection → Your first sentence doesn't clearly show what Lucas regrets. The sudden mention of culture classes needs more context to help readers understand the connection.

Exemplar: ***Lucas wished he had listened more carefully in cultural studies, where they had learned about different writing systems. The memory sparked another thought - his grandfather's icy blue ring bore similar mysterious markings.***

#3: "After 10 minutes in search of the blue ring, he noticed a glint of blue to his left. He rushed towards the glint, and there it was. The favourable ring his grandfather gave him before he passed away."

Strengths:

- Creates tension through the search
- Adds emotional depth with grandfather connection

Weakness: Abrupt pacing → Your sentences jump quickly between actions without building enough suspense during the search. The discovery feels too sudden.

Exemplar: ***His heart racing, Lucas scanned his room until a familiar blue glint caught his eye. With trembling hands, he reached for the precious ring - his grandfather's final gift.***

■ Your story has an intriguing mystery at its core, but you could make the connections between events clearer. Try to show how each discovery leads to the next clue. Add more details about Lucas's feelings as he pieces together the puzzle. Make the cultural connection to his family's Japanese heritage stronger throughout the story.

Actionable task: Rewrite the scene where Lucas finds the ring, focusing on building suspense and showing his emotional connection to his grandfather's gift.

Score: 39/50

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. ~~He had not been too sure what the language was, but he knew the language started with the letter J~~ [Though uncertain of its origin, he recognised the script began with the letter J].

#2 ~~Lucas regretted it, as he should've~~ [Lucas regretted not having] paid attention to culture classes at school. Then he remembered. ~~His grandfather had given him a~~ [His grandfather had given him an] icy blue ring that had the same language engraved on it.

When Lucas arrived home, he quickly sprinted into his tiny bedroom as fast as his skinny, noble legs could carry him.

#3 After 10 minutes in search of the blue ring, he noticed a glint of blue to his left. ~~He rushed towards the glint, and there it was~~ [He rushed towards the gleam, his heart pounding]. The ~~favourable~~ [precious] ring his grandfather gave him before he passed away.

He also received a hint that the language was possibly in some Ancient Japanese language, since his family's ancestral language was Japanese. As time passed by everyday, Lucas kept on gaining more information about the message.

WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "Every midnight, the stars above the village flickered off for exactly one minute, but only Liam seemed to notice. He would tell the villagers that each night, stars will disappear and reappear."

Strengths:

- Creates an intriguing opening that draws readers in
- Establishes the mysterious premise effectively

Weakness: Limited sensory details → Your description of the stars flickering off could be enhanced with vivid details about how the sky looks during this moment. "Flickered off" is quite basic and misses the chance to paint a clearer picture.

Exemplar: *Every midnight, as the village slept, the inky black sky would empty itself of its silver diamonds, leaving nothing but darkness for precisely sixty seconds, but only Liam remained awake to witness this spectacle.*

#2: "They're nothing but fools, thought Liam. They just won't listen to me and see what happens in the sky at 10 pm."

Strengths:

- Shows Liam's frustration clearly
- Reveals conflict between character and villagers

Weakness: Time inconsistency → Your story mentions midnight in the beginning but switches to 10 pm without any reason. This creates confusion about when the event actually occurs.

Exemplar: *"These villagers are blind to the truth," Liam thought bitterly, wishing they would believe his words about the midnight phenomenon.*

#3: "This event left people jaws dropped onto the ground, trying to recall what happened."

Strengths:

- Captures the villagers' amazement
- Shows the impact of the revelation

Weakness: Unclear reaction sequence → Your description jumps from the stars disappearing to people trying to recall what happened. The immediate reactions and feelings are missing.

Exemplar: *The villagers stood frozen, their mouths agape, as their minds struggled to process the extraordinary sight they had just witnessed.*

■ Your story presents an interesting concept about a mysterious event that only one person notices. However, you could strengthen the emotional journey of both Liam and the villagers. Try showing how Liam feels when he's alone in his knowledge, and how the villagers' disbelief affects him personally. You could also build up more tension before the final revelation.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the middle section focusing on Liam's emotional state and inner thoughts during the days leading up to the villagers finally witnessing the event.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 Every midnight, the stars above the village flickered off for exactly one minute, but only Liam seemed to notice. ~~He would tell the villagers that each night, stars will disappear and reappear.~~ [Each night, Liam would tell the villagers about the disappearing stars, but they never believed him.]

#2 ~~They're nothing but fools, thought Liam. They just won't listen to me and see what happens in the sky at 10 pm.~~ ["They must be fools," thought Liam bitterly. "They refuse to see what happens in the sky at midnight."]

All of this changed on one Saturday night, at ~~9:55pm~~ [11:55 pm], when people stayed outside, staring up at the sky.

"What are you doing?" asked Liam.

"Well, you said stars will disappear and reappear above the village, and so we're here to see if you lied or not," answered a villager.

~~At 10pm~~ [At midnight], the event occurred followed by soft gasps at the sky.

#3 ~~This event left people jaws dropped onto the ground, trying to recall what happened.~~ [The villagers stood with their jaws dropped, struggling to comprehend what they had just witnessed.]

"I guess you were correct all along," whispered a nearby villager.

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 "Being a good student means to put in all my effort to working my hardest, trying to receive the highest result. I also try to be a role model towards the younger ones." Strengths:

- Shows dedication to academic excellence
- Demonstrates awareness of leadership responsibility

Weakness: Limited depth in role model description → Your response mentions being a role model but doesn't explain specific ways you act as one. The phrase "towards the younger ones" is vague and could be more detailed about how you inspire others.

Exemplar: ***"Being a good student means dedicating myself fully to my studies while actively mentoring younger students by helping them with their schoolwork and showing them how to participate positively in class discussions."***

#2 "If I see some one the playground getting bullied, what I would do is walk up to the victim and ask about the situation to see what's wrong and go discuss the problem with the bully." Strengths:

- Shows initiative in addressing conflict
- Demonstrates empathy towards others

Weakness: Unclear problem-solving steps → Your response jumps from asking the victim to discussing with the bully without mentioning if you would seek help from teachers or follow school protocols for handling bullying.

Exemplar: ***"When I see someone being bullied in the playground, I first make sure the victim is safe, then report the situation to a teacher, and finally support the victim by staying with them until help arrives."***

#3 "Q1: 'Did you feel proud of the discovery you made?' Q2:'How did it feel when nobody believed you about your discovery?'" Strengths:

- Shows interest in personal experiences
- Demonstrates understanding of historical challenges

Weakness: Surface-level questioning → Your questions focus on feelings rather than exploring the scientific process or impact of Galileo's discoveries. The questions could dig deeper into his methods and contributions.

Exemplar: ***"I would ask Galileo: 'What evidence convinced you most strongly that Earth orbits the Sun, and how did you gather this evidence despite the limited technology of your time?'"***

■ Your answers would benefit from more specific examples and detailed explanations. When discussing being a good student, share concrete examples of how you help others. For bullying situations, include more steps about involving appropriate adults. For historical figures, consider asking questions about their work methods and legacy rather than just their feelings. Try to expand your responses beyond basic descriptions to show deeper thinking.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 ~~Being a good student means to put in all my effort to working my hardest~~ [Being a good student means putting in all my effort and working my hardest], trying to receive the highest result. I also try to be a role model towards the younger ones. Another thing ~~is crucial is that~~ [that is crucial is] I always hand in all my assignments before the due date especially with quality. Focusing and listening in class is one of the prioritised needs for a good student, and I'm all forward to it. I also like to listen and engage with group activities when doing a group assignment. Leaving people out of conversations is something that I wouldn't do. Instead, I would do the opposite and show all my respect and attention to the speaker. Most people also ask, why give up when you've come so far already? But the thing is, I don't. I never do. That is what I call being a good student.

#2 This is a very common situation I see in many places. If I see ~~some one~~ [someone] ~~the~~ [in the] playground getting bullied, what I would do is walk up to the victim and ask about the situation to see what's wrong and go discuss the problem with the bully. I also would ask the victim to see if they're ok. I would also stand up for the victim and tell the bully to stop. Another thing that I would do is to encourage the victim to stand up for himself/herself whenever this situation happens again. "Don't let their taunting get to you. You stand up for yourself, you are on a higher power than them."

#3 If I were to choose to meet any historical figure, I would like to meet Galileo Galilei. The reason I chose to meet him was because he was the one who said to the people that ~~earth~~ [Earth] was the one to orbit around the sun, though many didn't believe him at that time. He also stood up for himself for thinking about space in a different way than the others did. I would also ask him a few questions. Q1: "Did you feel proud of the discovery you made?" Q2: "How did it feel when nobody believed you about your discovery?" Q3: "If you were to be here, right now, in 2025, would you think people would be happy with your discovery?"