

## WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

### Section 1:

#1: "The carpet lay in the centre, its vivid layers framed by a soft brown border, a kaleidoscope of colours brightening the barren room." Strengths:

- Effective use of spatial positioning and visual imagery
- Strong opening that establishes the focal point

Weakness: Limited sensory detail → Your opening focuses mainly on visual elements. While you mention colours and patterns, you could enhance the reader's experience by incorporating other senses. The phrase "brightening the barren room" could be expanded to create a more immersive scene.

Exemplar: *The carpet lay in the centre, its vivid layers framed by a soft brown border, a kaleidoscope of colours warming the barren room with its musky, ancient perfume.*

#2: "The pile, once plush and yielding, now glowed faintly with a soft, antique lustre, as if each footfall was met with the faint whisper of history." Strengths:

- Beautiful contrast between past and present
- Creative personification of the carpet

Weakness: Unclear timeline → Your description jumps between time periods without clear transitions. The phrases "once plush" and "now glowed" need more context to help readers understand the carpet's journey through time.

Exemplar: *After fifty years of faithful service, the pile, once plush and yielding, now glowed faintly with a soft, antique lustre, each footfall whispering tales of its rich history.*

#3: "The scent of antiquity lingered, woven into the fibres, like the vestigial traces of past lives cherished within its fibres." Strengths:

- Engaging use of metaphor
- Integration of sensory detail

Weakness: Repetitive word choice → Your use of "fibres" twice in the same sentence reduces its impact. The phrases "woven into the fibres" and "within its fibres" make the writing feel less polished.

Exemplar: *The scent of antiquity lingered, woven into each thread, like cherished memories preserved within its ancient fibres.*

■ Your piece creates a lovely snapshot of an old carpet, but you could deepen the story by exploring its significance to specific characters or events. Try adding details about who walked upon it or what celebrations it witnessed. You could also expand on how the carpet's presence affects the mood of the room and its inhabitants. Consider developing a stronger emotional connection between the carpet and its surroundings.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the piece while focusing on one specific memory or event that occurred on this carpet, ensuring to weave in concrete details about the people involved.

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**Score: 41/50**

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Section 2:

#1 The carpet lay in the centre, its vivid layers framed by a soft brown border, a kaleidoscope of colours brightening the barren room.

#2 Each thread in its intricate weave had silently witnessed decades of life above it, its foundation woven with ancestral care. The carpet itself was a tapestry, as though an artist had spun a medley of hues into a lustrous, iridescent canvas, creating a design that was both primordial and refined. Despite its time-worn surface, like the weathered skin of a venerable elder, its steadfast stillness and radiant beauty illuminated the room, much like a flickering candle in the dark recesses of a forgotten chamber.

Meandering lines of colour curled across its surface, forming reciprocal, serpentine shapes, the pattern imbued with timeless grace— ~~too perfect to be of this world~~ [its perfection seemingly otherworldly]. #3 The pile, once plush and yielding, now glowed faintly with a soft, antique lustre, as if each footfall was met with the faint whisper of history. The scent of antiquity lingered, woven into the fibres, like the vestigial traces of past lives cherished within its fibres.

Its weathered face, worn but not forgotten, spoke of countless memories. A labyrinthine design sprawled across its surface, bold and resolute, leaving its mark in the room long after it had been neglected. The carpet, a once-pristine decoration, was now a venerable relic of beauty, enduring through the ages.

## WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 "Deep beneath the city, where no light ever touched, Aiden discovered a hidden door that pulsed with an eerie blue glow. The faint glow illuminated the shadowed surroundings, but the silence that filled the air seemed to weigh heavily on him."

Strengths:

- Strong imagery creates a mysterious atmosphere
- Effective use of sensory details with light and silence

Weakness: Limited scene setting → Your description focuses mainly on the door and light, but misses deeper details about the underground setting. Words like "deep beneath" and "shadowed surroundings" could be more specific about what Aiden sees and feels in this underground space.

Exemplar: ***Deep beneath the city's rumbling streets, where not even the faintest ray of sunlight penetrated the damp stone walls, Aiden discovered a hidden door that pulsed with an eerie blue glow.***

#2 "His fingers brushed over the door's smooth surface, tracing the glowing symbols, offering no answers —only more questions."

Strengths:

- Good use of physical action to show emotion
- Creates suspense through mystery

Weakness: Underdeveloped symbolism → You mention glowing symbols but don't give them meaning or purpose. What do these symbols look like? How do they make Aiden feel when he touches them?

Exemplar: ***His fingers brushed over the door's smooth surface, tracing the spiral symbols that glowed like starlight, each curve and line seeming to whisper secrets he couldn't understand.***

#3 "The silence of the house was broken only by the clatter of his luggage rolling across the floor. The furniture, though aged, seemed to belong there, as if time had woven it into the very fabric of the place."

Strengths:

- Nice contrast between silence and sound
- Creative description of old furniture

Weakness: Rushed transition → Your shift from the mysterious door to being inside happens too quickly. Readers need more details about Kelly's home and Aiden's first impressions.

Exemplar: *The silence of the house wrapped around him like a thick blanket, broken only by the quiet rumble of his luggage wheels across the wooden floor. The furniture, though aged with countless memories, seemed to welcome him home.*

■ Your writing shows promise in creating a magical atmosphere, but needs more depth in character emotions and setting details. Try adding more about how Aiden feels physically and emotionally throughout his journey. Your story feels a bit short - consider expanding on Kelly's character and her connection to Aiden's mother to make the ending more meaningful.

Actionable task: Rewrite the scene where Aiden first enters Kelly's house, focusing on his emotional journey and including specific details about the house that remind him of his mother.

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**Score: 39/50**

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Section 2:

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Deep beneath the city, where no light ever touched, Aiden discovered a hidden door that pulsed with an eerie blue glow. ~~The faint glow illuminated the shadowed surroundings, but the silence that filled the air seemed to weigh heavily on him.~~ [The ethereal glow cast dancing shadows on the damp stone walls, whilst the silence pressed against his ears like a physical weight.]

~~He stood there, a lump in his throat, unsure of what awaited beyond.~~ [He stood frozen, heart pounding against his ribs, unsure what mysteries lay beyond.] Was this truly the place his mother had promised him? ~~Would he be accepted, or would he be left to navigate this unknown world alone?~~ [Would he find acceptance here, or face this strange new world alone?] The uncertainty gnawed at him, but there was no turning back now.

His fingers brushed over the door's smooth surface, ~~tracing the glowing symbols, offering no answers—only more questions.~~ [tracing ancient symbols that pulsed with otherworldly light, each curve and line offering no answers—only more questions.] In his hand, he clutched a sheet of paper, frayed at the edges, sent to him by his mother before she left this world. ~~His heart tightened as he read the words again, for what felt like the millionth time, longing for the last message she had given him.~~ [His chest constricted as he read the words again, for what felt like

the thousandth time, cherishing the last message she had given him:] "I'm so sorry to leave you, but you'll have my best friend. Look for Kelly; she'll look after you as I do. I love you, always."

~~Tears streamed down his face as he rapped three times on the door. [Tears blurring his vision, he rapped three times on the door.] It swung open. A young woman, her clothes worn but pristine, ushered him inside. [The door swung inward silently, revealing a woman whose worn but immaculate clothes spoke of careful dignity. She ushered him inside without a word.]~~

~~The silence of the house was broken only by the clatter of his luggage rolling across the oor. [The profound silence of the house was broken only by the soft rumble of his luggage wheels across [the] ancient floor.] The furniture, though aged, seemed to belong there, as if time had woven it into the very fabric of the place. [Each piece of furniture, though marked by time, seemed to belong perfectly in its place - as if generations of care had woven them into the very essence of the home.] She led him to a small room, [Kelly led him to a modest room,] and as he set his things down, he noticed her hair drawn tightly into a bun, her eyes studying him with quiet intensity, searching for any trace of the grief he had carried. [he noticed her grey-streaked hair pulled back in a neat bun, her eyes studying him with quiet understanding, seeing past his careful mask to the grief beneath.] "I'm so sorry," she whispered, pulling him into a tight embrace. For the first time in days, he felt at home. [For the first time since losing his mother, Aiden felt like he might have found home.]~~

## INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 (Community Improvement Response) Strengths:

- Detailed proposal for addressing housing challenges with specific implementation steps
- Clear sustainability plan through the 90% repayment system

Weakness: Limited scope in financial education programme → Your response mentions financial management education but doesn't outline specific skills or topics to be covered. The phrase "educate residents on financial management" needs more depth about what exactly would be taught.

Exemplar: ***I would establish comprehensive financial literacy programmes covering budgeting, debt management, savings strategies, and investment basics to equip residents with practical money management skills.***

#2 (Conflict Resolution Response) Strengths:

- Provides a specific real-life example
- Shows practical problem-solving approach

Weakness: Shallow conflict resolution strategy → Your answer focuses mainly on one approach to conflict resolution. The phrase "I suggested we each present our ideas" could be expanded to include other conflict management techniques.

Exemplar: ***Besides discussing ideas privately, I would also suggest bringing in a neutral mediator if needed, and establish clear communication guidelines to prevent future disagreements.***

#3 (Teaching Approach Response) Strengths:

- Shows understanding of student learning challenges
- Includes peer learning strategy

Weakness: Limited teaching methods → Your teaching strategy primarily relies on individual problem-solving and peer groups. The phrase "solve problems individually and then explain" suggests a narrow range of teaching techniques.

Exemplar: ***I would incorporate various teaching methods including visual aids, real-world applications, interactive games, and hands-on activities to accommodate different learning styles.***

■ Your responses would benefit from more specific examples and detailed implementation plans. While you present good ideas, they need more depth and practical details. For instance, in your community improvement answer, consider adding concrete numbers and timelines. Your conflict resolution response could include more strategies beyond just discussion. Try to expand your teaching methods beyond traditional approaches.

Task: Rewrite your teaching approach response focusing on incorporating diverse teaching methods and specific examples of how you would implement each method.

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**Score: 40/50**

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Section 2:

Q1: Imagine you are given a large sum of money to improve your community—how would you use it?

With a substantial sum of money, I would address housing challenges, a pressing issue for many in our community. Rising living costs have left individuals and families struggling financially. I would fund the construction of facilities offering free temporary housing and establish programmes to educate residents on financial management, enabling them to transition into stable living situations. To ensure sustainability, residents would repay 90% of the assistance when financially able, allowing the funds to support others in need. This initiative could significantly reduce homelessness, empower individuals with practical skills, and create a ripple effect of stability and self-reliance. #1

Another priority would be incentivising environmentally friendly practices, specifically through solar panel and battery installations. The current government rebates for such systems, while helpful, fall short of encouraging widespread adoption. I would allocate funds to expand and enhance these rebates, particularly for systems including battery storage. This initiative would make renewable energy more accessible, reduce household electricity costs, and promote sustainability. By providing a significant financial incentive, we could foster a greener community, lower carbon emissions, and inspire long-term environmental responsibility. These efforts would benefit both current residents and future generations by investing in a cleaner, more sustainable future.

Q2: How would you handle a conflict with a classmate or teammate?

#2 ~~If I were to handle a conflict with a classmate or teammate,~~ [When handling a conflict with a classmate or teammate,] I would start by addressing the issue calmly and privately to avoid

escalating tensions. For instance, during a group project, I once disagreed with a teammate over how to approach a task. Instead of arguing, I suggested we each present our ideas and discuss their pros and cons. This allowed us to understand each other's perspectives and find a compromise that combined our strengths. By staying respectful and focusing on shared goals, I was able to turn a potential conflict into a productive collaboration, benefiting everyone involved.

Q3: If you were asked to teach a class for a day, what subject would you choose and how would you teach it?

~~#3 If I were to teach a class for a day,~~ [Given the opportunity to teach a class for a day,] I would choose Mathematics, a subject I excel in and feel passionate about. Many students struggle with maths because they lack a solid understanding of the underlying concepts. I would engage every student by having them solve problems individually and then explain their reasoning to the class, ensuring true comprehension. From their responses, I could identify knowledge gaps and focus on the most common issues. Additionally, I would organise peer-helping groups, as students often relate better to their peers' struggles. This collaborative approach fosters understanding and makes learning more effective.