

WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 "On the last day of summer, Lucas had a peculiar feeling in his gut. It felt like something was dragging him; It called out to him, trying to control him."

Strengths:

- Strong opening that creates immediate intrigue
- Effective use of sensory details to establish tension

Weakness: Repetitive pronouns → Your repeated use of "him" in quick succession weakens the impact. The phrase "It called out to him, trying to control him" could be more powerful with varied sentence structure.

His feeling pulled at his chest, its ghostly whispers attempting to take control.

#2 "The warm sun hung low, its weightless particles touching the sparkling sea, as the sea water was painted by the fluorescent colours of an endless sunset."

Strengths:

- Beautiful imagery of the sunset
- Creative use of personification

Weakness: Overcomplicated description → Your description includes too many elements at once. The phrase "weightless particles" alongside "fluorescent colours" makes the imagery feel cluttered rather than focused.

The warm sun hung low, painting the sparkling sea with the rich colours of an endless sunset.

#3 "Just as he peered closer, he heard strange, whirling sounds but ignored them. Suddenly, a whirling pool of past, present and future, otherwise known as a portal, appeared"

Strengths:

- Good build-up of supernatural elements
- Clear transition into fantasy elements

Weakness: Rushed pacing → Your quick jump from hearing sounds to the portal's appearance needs more development. The phrase "but ignored them" diminishes the tension you've built.

As he leaned in closer, strange whirling sounds filled the air. The noise grew louder until suddenly, a swirling portal materialised before him, its ultramarine and violet depths promising glimpses of past, present and future

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating an atmospheric fantasy scene. You could strengthen the story by developing Lucas's emotional journey more deeply. When he discovers the bottle and scroll, take time to show his inner thoughts and feelings. Adding more detail about why he feels compelled to read the scroll would help readers connect with his choices.

Actionable task: Rewrite the paragraph where Lucas finds the bottle, focusing on his emotional response and internal dialogue as he debates whether to open it.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 On the last day of summer, Lucas had a peculiar feeling in his gut. ~~It felt like something was dragging him; It called out to him, trying to control him.~~ [Something dragged at his consciousness, calling out and trying to control him.] He grimaced, clutching his stomach and ~~tried to walk to~~ [stumbled towards] his corroded, tarnished car, where his phone lay on the torn fabric, but he failed. His heart raced. Worries appeared in every corner of his head, screaming with force. He surrendered to the scorching hot sand, his body slowly sinking in it.

#2 The warm sun hung low, ~~its weightless particles touching the sparkling sea, as the sea water was painted by~~ [casting golden light across the sparkling sea, painting it with] the fluorescent ~~colors~~ [colours] of an endless sunset. The world felt oddly still; there was no water rippling softly against the sand, and the air seemed to hold its breath.

~~He~~[His] fingers sank deeper, the sand biting his smooth skin. He felt something cold, something conspicuous from the hot sand. He lifted the object out of the sand. A crumpled piece of paper was nestled in the viridian bottle. He popped open the oak cork. He then lifted the crisp scroll, its scent seemed to whisper secrets to his mind.

Curiosity seemed to wave his doubts off. The scroll was written in a language that was an enigma, yet somehow familiar. #3 ~~Just as he peered closer, he heard strange, whirling sounds but ignored them. Suddenly, a whirling pool of past, present and future, otherwise known as a portal, appeared~~

[As he studied the mysterious text, strange whirling sounds filled the air. Before his eyes, a portal manifested - a swirling pool of past, present and future], ultramarine and violet swirling from the centre. He felt his body shrink as the portal pulled him into the forgotten darkness.

WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Creates an intriguing premise with precise timing detail
- Establishes mystery through unique astronomical phenomenon

Weakness: Limited context development → Your opening would benefit from setting up why this phenomenon is significant to the village. The phrase "It was like a break for the stars" needs more foundation to support this interpretation.

Exemplar: *Each night at midnight, the stars above our remote village performed their mysterious disappearing act - a phenomenon that had captivated me since childhood.*

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Rich sensory details with moonlight imagery
- Effective use of time element to build tension

Weakness: Disconnected imagery → Your descriptions of moonlight creating "natural aroma" don't connect logically. The phrase "emotions pouring out onto the air" needs clearer connection to the scene's atmosphere.

Exemplar: *The moonlight bathed my bedroom in an ethereal glow, casting silver shadows across my blanket as my digital clock blinked towards midnight.*

#3 (Final paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong character motivation
- Introduces meaningful stakes

Weakness: Rushed revelation → Your conclusion jumps too quickly to global significance. The phrase "in the entire eight billion people" needs more build-up to justify why Liam feels personally chosen.

Exemplar: *Something about these vanishing stars spoke directly to me - a message I couldn't ignore, even if I was the only one in our village who noticed.*

■ Your narrative presents an engaging concept about cosmic mystery and personal destiny. To deepen your story's impact, try developing why this star phenomenon matters specifically to your village and Liam's place within it. You could strengthen the connection between the physical event and its deeper meaning by showing how it affects daily village life.

Actionable task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing on building a clearer progression from local significance to global importance, showing specific ways the star phenomenon has changed Liam's understanding of his role.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 Every midnight, the stars around Liam's village vanish for precisely one minute, not a millisecond off. ~~It was like a break for the stars, as if presenting their stunning light was tiring.~~ [The stars seemed to take their nightly respite, as though the burden of their celestial display required a moment's pause.] It was a mind-twisting discovery; ~~only if someone else ever listened or saw it themselves too~~ [if only someone else would stay awake to witness it].

#2 He stared out his tinted window, gazing ~~on~~ [at] the glittering stars, a loose blanket wrapped warmly around his hips. ~~Moonlight was caught upon his bedroom, its emotions pouring out onto the air, creating a natural aroma of freshness.~~ [Moonlight spilled across his bedroom, filling the space with an otherworldly radiance that seemed to freshen the night air.] His digital clock presented luminescent, crimson pixels that showed 11:59.

#3 ~~It was as if~~ [The stars seemed as though they were] calling out to him every night, and he was convinced that there was a deeper meaning than hallucinating. It was a sign of something, maybe a warning, or an invitation. Whatever it was, it was something important. He could feel it, the need ~~of~~ [for] action, and in the entire eight billion people roaming on the Earth, it had to be him.

Anticipation and excitement rose up onto his chest. The stars disappearing from the always-lightened sky was so brilliant, so astonishing, he could never be bored of it. Yet nobody except him cared to stay up to midnight, and when he told his parents, they didn't believe him. Everyone in the village ~~were~~ [was] so used ~~laying~~ [to lying] in their comfort zone cot, too content in their ordinary schedules.

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph about being a good student) Strengths:

- Powerful use of metaphors like "obstacles crash onto them like lightning"
- Strong emphasis on resilience and self-awareness

Weakness: Limited connection between ideas → Your ideas jump from resilience to self-awareness to curiosity without clear links. For example, you mention "Self-awareness is key" but don't explain how it connects to being a good student.

Exemplar: *A good student demonstrates resilience by bouncing back from challenges while maintaining their humility. This self-awareness helps them develop both inner peace and the confidence to pursue their curiosities.*

#2 (Response about unfair treatment) Strengths:

- Clear step-by-step approach to handling the situation
- Good balance between direct intervention and seeking help

Weakness: Lack of specific examples → Your response would be stronger with real-life examples. You mention "small yet powerful words" but only give two basic examples.

Exemplar: *When I see someone being bullied, I might say "I understand how you feel" and offer to sit with them at lunch, showing support through both words and actions.*

#3 (Leonardo Da Vinci answer) Strengths:

- Shows genuine interest in the historical figure
- Makes connection to modern relevance

Weakness: Surface-level exploration → Your response touches briefly on Da Vinci's achievements but doesn't dig deeper into why his specific innovations interest you.

Exemplar: *I would ask Da Vinci about his flying machine designs and how his observations of birds influenced his understanding of aerodynamics, as this shows how his curiosity led to groundbreaking innovations.*

■ Your answers show good thinking but need more personal examples and deeper exploration. For the Da Vinci response, you could mention specific inventions that fascinate you. In the fairness scenario, include a real situation you've handled. When describing a good student, connect your ideas with clear transitions to build a stronger argument.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 Being a good student goes deeper in definition ~~then~~ [than] having excellent grades and being kind to many people. They have to demonstrate the ability to be resilient, bouncing back from harsh or hard times as obstacles crash onto them like lightning, pushing through all of the pain yet still demonstrating a sense of humbleness and fairness. ~~Self-awareness is key for developing a sense of peacefulness and gentleness.~~ [Self-awareness helps develop inner peace and gentleness, which are essential qualities of a good student.] A good student traces and embraces their curiosities, comprehending and solving questions all around them in the dark world. They are always confident and not afraid to speak up and answer questions, always learning and listening, not afraid to ask questions about things they do not know. Ultimately, it is all about having ~~the corrective mindset~~ [a growth mindset] of an assertive attitude and a heart that burns with passion and assertiveness.

#2 If I see someone being treated unfairly, I will carefully assess the situation, including factors such as: ~~Time limits~~ [time constraints], The amount of people bullying the victim, Physical or verbal bullying, etc. Then I would conclude if ~~it safe~~ [it is safe] to intervene with the situation or to call for help. ~~In the time~~ [At times] where it is safe to intervene with the situation, I will then defend, calm, or help the victim, by either small yet powerful words like "It will be okay," and "Stay calm." I will stand up for them, lend a helping hand or just something as basic as listening to them. On the other hand, if help is essential, I will speak to a teacher, parent, or an advocate to both understand the bigger picture and smoothen up the situation. Action is always available; from using calming words to calling for help.

#3 I would meet Leonardo Da Vinci, for his intelligence, creativity, unique writing style and pure determination inspires me. ~~He worked in~~ [He excelled at] a wide range of subjects, such as science, art, and engineering. He is the man that invented things that were not officially invented until hundreds of years after his death. I would like to ask him about his brilliance, how his spark of curiosity raged on such a wide range of subjects. I would also ask what advice he would give to thinkers and artists in the modern world struggling to get ideas or lacking motivation. His perspective on today's ~~pressurised~~ [pressured] world will give important, new insights leading to huge leaps in technology.