

WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

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

- Vivid scene-setting with sensory details
- Strong hook that creates intrigue

Weakness: Opening sentence structure → Your opening combines multiple ideas without giving enough weight to the main discovery. The phrase "entombed in the incandescent sand" draws attention away from the crucial finding of the message.

Exemplar: *On the final day of summer, Lucas discovered a message in an unfamiliar language, carefully preserved within a delicate glass jar buried in the gleaming sand.*

#2 "Back at home, Lucas spent hours researching the symbols, poring over ancient texts and deciphering codes." Strengths:

- Shows character's dedication
- Builds story progression naturally

Weakness: Limited emotional depth → Your writing tells us what Lucas does but doesn't reveal how he feels during this intense research. The passage moves quickly through his actions without showing his emotional investment.

Exemplar: *Back at home, Lucas's hands trembled with excitement as he devoted hours to researching the mysterious symbols, his mind racing as he pored over ancient texts and attempted to crack their code.*

#3 "The jar, meanwhile, seemed to hum with a low, resonant energy, like a dormant volcano waiting to erupt." Strengths:

- Creative use of comparison
- Builds supernatural element effectively

Weakness: Underdeveloped atmosphere → Your comparison jumps from a subtle hum to a volcano without building the growing tension. The sudden shift in intensity doesn't allow readers to fully experience the jar's mysterious nature.

Exemplar: *The jar pulsed with an otherworldly energy, its quiet hum growing stronger with each passing moment, like the deep rumble of earth before a volcanic awakening.*

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating mystery but needs deeper exploration of Lucas's emotional journey. The pacing moves too quickly through important moments that could better engage readers. You can strengthen your story by slowing down at key points to show Lucas's thoughts and feelings as he unravels this ancient mystery.

Actionable task: Rewrite the paragraph about Lucas researching the symbols, focusing on his emotional state and internal thoughts during this process.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 ~~The last day of summer, Lucas found a delicate glass jar entombed in the incandescent sand, and inside was a message written in a language he couldn't understand.~~ [On the last day of summer, Lucas found a delicate glass jar buried in the incandescent sand. Inside lay a message written in a language he couldn't understand.] The symbols were unlike anything he'd ever seen, swirling and intricate, like starlight trapped in amber. Curiosity piqued, Lucas brushed the sand from the jar, his fingers tracing the strange script. A shiver ran down his spine, an insidious sense of unease washing over him, like a cold wind whispering secrets through the trees. He had stumbled upon something extraordinary, something that might hold secrets older than time itself.

#2 ~~Back at home, Lucas spent hours researching the symbols, poring over ancient texts and deciphering codes.~~ [At home, Lucas devoted countless hours to studying the symbols, his eyes straining as he pored over ancient texts and attempted to decipher their codes.] He felt like a detective, meticulously piecing together a puzzling jigsaw puzzle of forgotten lore. Each symbol was a piece of the enigma, each stroke a hint of the message's origins.

#3 ~~The jar, meanwhile, seemed to hum with a low, resonant energy, like a dormant volcano waiting to erupt.~~ [The jar emanated a low, resonant energy, its presence growing stronger like a dormant volcano stirring from its slumber.] It was as if the message itself was trying to communicate with him, its energy seeping into his very being. Lucas knew he couldn't ignore the jar. It had become an obsession, a thorn in his side that demanded to be resolved. He decided to seek help, reaching out to a local university professor specialising in ancient languages. The professor, intrigued by the unique script, agreed to help Lucas decipher the message. Their journey had just begun, and Lucas had no idea what secrets the jar held or where it would lead him.

WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "Every midnight, the celestial tapestry above the slumbering village suffered a celestial eclipse. For sixty seconds precisely, the firmament, once a glittering expanse of diamonds, transformed into a velvet void."

Strengths:

- Vivid imagery creates a mesmerising opening scene
- Strong word choice with "celestial tapestry" and "velvet void"

Weakness: Repetitive word choice → Your use of "celestial" twice in close proximity weakens the impact. The second instance could be replaced with different imagery.

Exemplar: *Every midnight, the ethereal tapestry above the slumbering village suffered a mysterious eclipse.*

#2: "Then, like a mischievous sprite extinguishing a thousand candles, the stars vanished, leaving behind a gaping maw of obsidian. Panic, a fleeting serpent, coiled around his heart."

Strengths:

- Creative metaphors bring the scene to life
- Effectively conveys emotional impact

Weakness: Disconnected metaphors → Your metaphors, while creative, jump from sprites to serpents without a smooth transition. This makes it harder to follow the imagery you're building.

Exemplar: *Then, like a mischievous sprite extinguishing a thousand candles, the stars vanished. Fear slithered through his chest as darkness consumed the sky.*

#3: "'A figment of your imagination, Liam,' they'd chide, their laughter a cruel counterpoint to the cosmic symphony unfolding above."

Strengths:

- Powerful contrast between mockery and wonder
- Effective use of musical terminology

Weakness: Limited dialogue development → Your dialogue feels brief and could better show the village's disbelief. The interaction ends too quickly.

Exemplar: *'Just dreams and fancy, young Liam,' they'd chide with knowing smirks. 'Perhaps you've been reading too many fairy stories,' others would add, their dismissive laughter drowning out his protests as the cosmic symphony played on overhead.*

■ Your narrative presents an intriguing premise about isolation and unshared experiences. You could strengthen the emotional impact by showing more of Liam's internal struggle with being the sole witness. Try adding specific details about how this affects his daily life and relationships. Consider developing the village's perspective to create more tension.

Actionable task: Rewrite the section where Liam attempts to tell others about the phenomenon, focusing on including specific reactions from at least three different villagers and Liam's emotional response to each.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 Every midnight, the celestial tapestry above the slumbering village suffered a celestial eclipse. For sixty seconds precisely, the firmament, once a glittering expanse of diamonds, transformed into a velvet void.

#2 Only Liam, a solitary sentinel against the indifferent night, witnessed this nightly spectacle. He first beheld this celestial anomaly on his tenth birthday, a night fraught with a preternatural stillness. Nestled amongst the fragrant hay of the loft, his gaze, a lone beacon in the inky darkness, was transfixed by the celestial ballet. Then, like a mischievous sprite extinguishing a thousand candles, the stars vanished, leaving behind a gaping maw of obsidian. Panic, a fleeting serpent, coiled around his heart.

~~Was it a portent of doom, a celestial omen he alone was cursed to witness?~~ [Could it be a portent of doom, a celestial omen he alone was cursed to witness?] He yearned to share this extraordinary phenomenon, to paint the canvas of the night sky with his words for his companions. "Observe!"

he'd implore, his voice a desperate plea against the indifferent murmur of the village. "The heavens themselves are weeping!"

#3 But his pronouncements were met with derision, his earnest pleas dismissed as the ramblings of a fevered mind. 'A figment of your imagination, Liam,' they'd chide, their laughter a cruel counterpoint to the cosmic symphony unfolding above. So, Liam, a solitary stargazer, was condemned to bear witness to this celestial enigma, a silent guardian of the night's secrets, forever bound by the invisible chains of his own perception.

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 "Being a good student means to me that you care for others not just yourself and be fair and respectful to everyone not biased or opinionated with specific student"

Strengths:

- Shows understanding of ethical behaviour and fairness
- Emphasises inclusivity and respect for all

Weakness: Run-on sentence without proper punctuation → This part combines multiple ideas without proper connection. The phrase "not biased or opinionated with specific student" is unclear and disrupts the flow.

Exemplar: ***"To me, being a good student means caring for others, not just yourself. It means treating everyone fairly and respectfully, without showing favouritism towards particular students."***

#2 "When I see my peers being treated unfairly, I will use the "high five" which is speak politely, speak firmly, ignore, walk away and reporting to a teacher."

Strengths:

- Demonstrates knowledge of conflict resolution steps
- Shows structured thinking in handling difficult situations

Weakness: Inconsistent verb forms → The list mixes different verb forms ("speak," "ignore," "reporting"). The steps need clearer organisation.

Exemplar: *"When I see my peers being treated unfairly, I follow the 'high five' steps: speaking politely, speaking firmly, ignoring the situation, walking away, and reporting to a teacher."*

#3 "The historical figure will definitely be Napoleon because he conquered many countries in Europe in the Napoleonic era and stood as an admiring figure in my heart"

Strengths:

- Shows personal connection to historical figure
- Provides specific reason for choice

Weakness: Limited depth in reasoning → The response focuses mainly on conquest without exploring Napoleon's leadership qualities or specific achievements.

Exemplar: *"I would choose Napoleon because he demonstrated remarkable leadership during the European campaigns. His ability to overcome defeats and maintain determination particularly inspires me."*

■ Your answers would benefit from more detailed examples to support your points. When discussing being a good student, you could mention specific ways to show care for others. For the unfair treatment situation, you might describe a real scenario where you used the "high five" steps. Your Napoleon answer could include specific battles or reforms he implemented. Try to make your responses longer by adding these concrete details.

Score: 36/50

Section 2:

#1 ~~Being a good student means to me~~ [To me, being a good student means] that you care for others not just yourself and be [are] fair and respectful to everyone [.] ~~not biased or opinionated with specific student~~ [You should treat all students equally without favouritism], being a good student also means ~~to have~~ [having] a harmonious friendship with fellow peers and teachers or school ~~sta~~C [staff]. ~~this~~ [This] can also benefit later on in life by having a strong relationship and

lots of friends [...] ~~so~~ [When] whenever you need help or have a problem [,] your friends can come and help you.

#2 When I see my peers being treated unfairly, I will use the "high five" which is ~~speak~~ [speaking] politely, ~~speak~~ [speaking] firmly, ~~ignore~~ [ignoring], ~~walk~~ [walking] away and ~~reporting~~ [report] to a teacher. This is a 5-step procedure I often use when encountering my peers getting bullied or treated unfairly [...] ~~if~~ [If] this procedure can't be used, I go up to the bully and ~~be~~ [become] an upstander to advocate for my friend or fellow student.

#3 The historical figure ~~will~~ [would] definitely be Napoleon because he conquered many countries in Europe in the Napoleonic era and stood as an admiring figure in my heart due to the fact that despite numerous failures and defeats, he still managed to maintain resilience and persistence to get his honour back again [...] ~~this~~ [This] inspired me to pursue ~~in~~ my dreams and never give up. The question is "Is there anything you found valuable in the years of battle?"