

## WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

### Section 1:

#1: "The carpet, with it intricate purple and orange patterns lay there, its mystical secrets revealing themselves, a confession to the truth behind the stitching."

#### Strengths:

- Vivid colour imagery creates a strong visual picture
- Personification of the carpet adds depth to the description

Weakness: Missing pronouns and punctuation → Your opening lacks proper pronouns ("it" should be "its") and contains unclear connections between ideas. The phrase "a confession to the truth behind the stitching" feels disconnected from the previous descriptions.

Exemplar: *The carpet, with its intricate purple and orange patterns, lay before me like an ancient scroll, its mystical secrets weaving through each carefully placed stitch.*

#2: "I start saying them, and make a futile attempt to stop. The carpet throbs and glows with an ethereal truth"

#### Strengths:

- Strong tension building through action
- Effective use of supernatural elements

Weakness: Underdeveloped sensory details → Your description of the carpet's supernatural qualities could be enhanced with more sensory details. "Throbs and glows" gives only basic visual information without exploring other senses.

Exemplar: *As the words spill from my lips despite my resistance, the carpet pulses with a warm, golden light that seems to whisper ancient truths into the air.*

#3: "The carpet throws me around, and when I can't take anymore, it stops. It just lies there, completely still"

#### Strengths:

- Clear sequence of action
- Strong contrast between action and stillness

Weakness: Rushed ending → Your conclusion moves too quickly from intense action to stillness without exploring the emotional impact or physical sensations of this experience.

Exemplar: *The carpet flings me across the room with supernatural force until my limbs ache, then suddenly releases its hold, settling back into an innocent pile of threads that betrays no hint of its power.*

■ Your piece creates an intriguing supernatural encounter but needs more development in several areas. You could expand on the protagonist's emotional journey throughout the experience. Adding more details about the setting would help readers better imagine where this mystical event takes place. Your writing would benefit from longer descriptions of the physical and emotional sensations during key moments.

Actionable task: Rewrite the ending paragraph focusing on the physical and emotional aftermath of being thrown around by the carpet, including specific details about how your body feels and your thoughts about what just happened.

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**Score: 38/50**

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Section 2:

#1 The carpet, with ~~it~~ [its] intricate purple and orange patterns ~~lay~~ [lay] there, its mystical secrets revealing themselves, ~~a confession to the truth behind the stitching~~ [revealing the truth woven within each stitch].

Its magical reality, a reality where no light was meant to touch, finally sees light again. Hesitantly, I lean forward and touch it. Words start appearing in my head, along with an irrepressible urge to say them. I close my eyes, and try to pull my hand from the carpet. I fail miserably.

#2 ~~I start panicking, worrying about what will happen to me. While I worry, the words in my head find their way into my mouth.~~ [Panic rises in my chest as the words in my head force their way to my mouth.] I start saying them, and make a futile attempt to stop. The carpet throbs and glows with an ethereal truth, and when I finally finish speaking the magic words, the carpet reacts, it starts screaming, and my eardrums beg for mercy.

#3 The carpet throws me around, and when I can't take [it] anymore, it stops. ~~It just lies there, completely still~~ [It settles silently on the floor], its magical secret pushed to the deepest depths of my mind.

## WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 "His trembling hands, shaking so hard they were a blur, reached out for the door handle, when he noticed there was none. Boom! Aiden whirled around his mind glad for the distraction, his eyes not."

Strengths:

- Strong sensory details with "trembling hands" and "shaking so hard" create tension
- Effective use of sound effects ("Boom!") adds drama

Weakness: Unclear sequence of events → Your description of Aiden's actions feels disconnected. The shift between reaching for the handle and whirling around happens too quickly, making it hard to follow what's happening.

Exemplar: ***His trembling hands reached for the door handle, finding nothing but smooth surface. A thunderous boom echoed behind him, making him whirl around – his mind welcomed the distraction, but his eyes widened in horror.***

#2 "No... it can't be...", Aiden cried. A wall, the same eerie blue that the door was, had slammed down behind him. Aiden thought of his parents, of his sister, his family."

Strengths:

- Good emotional depth showing Aiden's fear and thoughts of family
- Nice detail about the wall matching the door's colour

Weakness: Limited emotional depth → While you mention his family, you don't fully explore his feelings. The moment could be more powerful by showing how thinking of his family affects him.

Exemplar: ***"No... it can't be..." Aiden cried, his voice breaking. A wall, the same eerie blue as the door, had slammed behind him. Memories of his parents and sister flooded his mind, making his heart ache with regret.***

#3 "Come, Aiden, come. Meet my friends." the man said. "Oh, and my name is Daniel." "Nice to meet you, Daniel. Aiden followed, and when he saw Daniel's friends, he screamed."

Strengths:

- Good contrast between Daniel's friendly manner and the scary reveal
- Effective use of dialogue to build suspense

Weakness: Rushed ending → Your ending feels too quick. The shift from friendly conversation to screaming happens too fast without building enough tension.

Exemplar: *"Come, Aiden, come. Meet my friends," the man said with a gentle smile. "Oh, and my name is Daniel." "Nice to meet you, Daniel," Aiden replied cautiously. As he followed Daniel around the corner, the sight that greeted him made his blood freeze. He screamed.*

■ Your story has an interesting mix of fear and surprise elements. You could make your writing more gripping by slowing down key moments and adding more details about how Aiden feels. Try to spend more time describing the setting and Aiden's emotions. You could also make your ending stronger by building up the tension before the final reveal.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing on building tension gradually - describe Aiden's growing unease as he follows Daniel, what he notices along the way, and his reaction when he sees the monsters.

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**Score: 37/50**

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Section 2:

#1 His trembling hands, shaking so hard they were a blur, reached out for the door handle, when ~~he noticed there was none.~~ [he found nothing but smooth surface.] **Boom!** [A thunderous boom echoed through the space.] ~~Aiden whirled around his mind glad for the distraction, his eyes not.~~ [Aiden whirled around, his mind welcoming the distraction though his eyes filled with dread.]

#2 ~~"No... it can't be..."~~, ["No... it can't be..." ] Aiden cried. A wall, the same eerie blue that the door was, had slammed down behind him. Aiden thought of his parents, of his sister, his family. ~~He wished he had never entered that cave.~~ [He wished with all his heart he had never entered that cave.] Resignedly, he turned around, only to see the door slowly creak open. Terror pierced his heart. There was nowhere to hide.

#3 "Come, Aiden, come. Meet my friends [," ] the man said. "Oh, and my name is Daniel." ~~"Nice to meet you, Daniel. Aiden followed,~~ ["Nice to meet you, Daniel," Aiden replied, his voice trembling. He followed Daniel,] and when he saw Daniel's friends, he screamed. ~~They were monsters, ugly blue monsters.~~ [Before him stood creatures with twisted blue forms.] They ran at him and Aiden closed his eyes.

## INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 (Q1 - Housing initiative) Strengths:

- Clear vision for addressing homelessness through practical solution
- Demonstrates environmental consciousness by incorporating sustainability

Weakness: Limited discussion of operational details → Your response focuses on the physical aspects but doesn't address how you would manage and sustain the facility long-term. The phrase "building would be energy efficient" needs more depth about specific sustainable features and their benefits.

Exemplar: *I would establish a sustainable apartment complex powered by solar panels and equipped with rainwater harvesting systems, partnering with local organisations to ensure ongoing support services and facility management.*

#2 (Q2 - Conflict resolution) Strengths:

- Shows willingness to listen actively
- Demonstrates thoughtful approach to resolution

Weakness: Vague resolution process → Your conflict resolution steps lack specific examples. The phrase "reach a reasonable compromise" doesn't show what actions you would take to achieve this outcome.

Exemplar: *After listening to their concerns about project timeline delays, I would suggest breaking down the project into smaller milestones and setting clear deadlines that work for both parties.*

#3 (Q3 - Teaching Minecraft) Strengths:

- Links gaming to valuable life skills
- Shows understanding of mental health benefits

Weakness: Missing teaching structure → Your teaching plan needs more details about lesson format. The phrase "allows players to express creativity" doesn't outline how you would teach these concepts step by step.

Exemplar: *I would start with a 15-minute demonstration of basic building techniques, followed by a hands-on session where students work in pairs to create their first structure, ending with group sharing of challenges and achievements.*

■ Your answers would benefit from more concrete examples and detailed implementation steps. Consider expanding on the practical aspects of each scenario - how you would fund the housing project, specific conflict resolution techniques you've used before, and a structured lesson plan for teaching Minecraft. Adding these details would make your responses more compelling and show deeper thought about each situation.

Your task: Rewrite your housing initiative answer (Q1) by including specific details about funding sources, operational partners, and sustainable features you would implement.

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**Score: 38/50**

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Section 2:

#1 Q1. If I was given a large sum of money, I would spend it on building a sustainable apartment building that can house up to a [blank] 100 homeless people to help with the homelessness crisis in Sydney. The building would be energy efficient to support Australia's renewable energy goals. ~~The apartment block would be adjacent to a green space where residents can talk with each other, make friends and create a sense of community.~~ [The apartment block would feature an adjacent green space designed to foster interaction between residents, enabling them to form friendships and build a strong community.] I would also open a community supermarket where the homeless can come and get staple groceries for free.

#2 Q2. ~~The way I would handle a conflict is to listen to the arguments being put forward by the person I am having a conflict with to allow me to understand their perspective.~~ [When handling a conflict, I would first listen carefully to the other person's arguments to understand their perspective fully.] I would expect them to listen to my perspective as well. I would then step away to a safe space to focus on what they said and how that marries up to my version of events. Once I have gathered my thoughts, I would approach them with my suggested resolution, listen to their suggested resolution and see if we can reach a reasonable compromise.

#3 Q3. If I was asked to teach a subject for a day, it would be how to play Minecraft. I would choose Minecraft because it allows players to express creativity by building structures, statues ~~and~~ [,] living and natural spaces. Players have to source the materials they need to build their worlds which teaches resourcefulness, sharing as we only take what we need ~~and~~ [,] team work if you're playing with other players. The Survival mode of the game makes it harder to source the material thus requiring out-of-the-box thinking. It is also a fun game which helps relieve stress and anxiety to assist with mental health.