

WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "On the last day of summer, as waves crashed against the shore and seagulls circled overhead, Lucas's fingers brushed against something smooth beneath the warm sunburnt sand – a glass jar containing a message written in mysterious symbols he'd never seen before."

Strengths:

- Vivid sensory details create an immersive beach setting
- Strong hook that builds intrigue with the mysterious jar discovery

Weakness: Rushed pacing → Your opening jumps too quickly from the setting to finding the jar. The phrase "fingers brushed against" happens too suddenly, leaving little room for suspense to build.

Exemplar: *On the last day of summer, Lucas wandered along the shoreline as waves crashed against the shore and seagulls circled overhead. His feet sank into the warm sunburnt sand with each step until something smooth caught his attention beneath the surface.*

#2: "As his left arm reached to grab it, his bright red scar began to pull against his skin, a dominating presence that pained him through his onyx tuxedo, his alabaster tie floating in the wind."

Strengths:

- Interesting detail about the scar adds character depth
- Colourful word choices create clear imagery

Weakness: Disconnected details → Your description mixes unrelated elements. The mention of "onyx tuxedo" and "alabaster tie" feels out of place at a beach setting, and their connection to the scar isn't clear.

Exemplar: *As his left arm reached to grab it, the bright red scar pulled against his skin - a dominating presence that reminded him of darker days.*

#3: "As he once again began to hold on to the bottle, memories of shared games with his brother floated like water and ink in his mind – some bitter, most sweet, all painful."

Strengths:

- Beautiful metaphor comparing memories to water and ink
- Effectively shows the complex relationship with his brother

Weakness: Repeated actions → Your writing uses "once again" and repeats the action of holding the bottle multiple times, which slows the story's momentum.

Exemplar: *Memories of shared games with his brother floated like water and ink in his mind – some bitter, most sweet, all painful.*

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating atmosphere and emotion, but needs clearer connections between events. The beach setting, formal attire, and brotherly conflict feel disconnected. Try to make your story elements work together more smoothly. Think about why Lucas is wearing a tuxedo at the beach and how this connects to his relationship with his brother.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the scene focusing on creating a clearer timeline of events, ensuring each detail serves a purpose in connecting Lucas's present situation to his past with his brother.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 On the last day of summer, as waves crashed against the shore and seagulls circled overhead, Lucas's fingers brushed against something smooth beneath the warm sunburnt sand – a glass jar containing a message written in mysterious symbols he'd never seen before.

~~#2 As his left arm reached to grab it, his bright red scar began to pull against his skin, a dominating presence that pained him through his onyx tuxedo, his alabaster tie floating in the wind.~~ [His bright red scar pulled against his skin as he reached for the jar, the pain sharp even through his onyx tuxedo. His alabaster tie fluttered in the wind.]

But the true story had already started when his bony fingers reached towards it. ~~The writing absorbed the warm sunlight, it now glowing and glistening with a titian colour.~~ [The writing absorbed the warm sunlight, now glowing and glistening with a titian colour.] With his other ~~hands~~ [hand's] massive fingers, he delicately and carefully looked at the script, every check, a

new layer of mysteriousness forming. Yet as he held it, memories became clearer and clearer though not in the way he wanted.

#3 ~~As he once again began to hold on to the bottle,~~ [Gripping the bottle tighter,] memories of shared games with his brother floated like water and ink in his mind – some bitter, most sweet, all painful. The familiar scent of chrysanthemum brought both peace and pain, each message read out by the bottle a mystical presence that was both considerate and evoking. Suddenly, it became clear what the inscription said. "Pain in memories." He once again looked at his scar, it no longer looking like a haunting presence that was left behind by his brother when they fought but rather a proof of his willpower. Then the sky turned dark and the moon came over to block the sun, the words still echoing in his mind from the battle.

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. They glowed ethereally every night in the evening light, illuminating the sky with hope."

Strengths:

- Creates an intriguing hook with the mysterious star phenomenon
- Effectively establishes the main character's unique perspective

Weakness: Limited sensory details → Your opening could benefit from more vivid descriptions of how the village looks during this magical moment. The current description mainly focuses on the stars, leaving out how this minute of darkness affects the village atmosphere.

Exemplar: *Every midnight, as the village lay silent under its blanket of thatch roofs and chimney smoke, the stars above flickered off for exactly one minute, leaving Liam alone in the velvet darkness.*

#2: "Everyone saw the stars like decorations. They would admire them for a moment before going back to their own activities. But Liam saw it as an escape from this world, an opening to another dimension"

Strengths:

- Strong contrast between Liam's perspective and others
- Good use of metaphor with the "escape" concept

Weakness: Underdeveloped character motivation → Your writing shows what Liam thinks but doesn't reveal why he sees the stars so differently from others. The phrase "escape from this world" needs more context about what he's trying to escape from.

Exemplar: *While villagers saw the stars as mere decorations, twinkling reminders to head home for supper, Liam saw them as doorways to freedom from the whispers that followed him through the cobbled streets.*

#3: "His tattoo of a heart just under his chin had been drawn over with a star, which glowed in the moonlight just like his silver, shiny clothes."

Strengths:

- Introduces an interesting visual detail with the tattoo
- Links the star motif to the character physically

Weakness: Disconnected narrative elements → Your writing introduces the tattoo and clothing details suddenly, without connecting them to the earlier parts about the stars' significance. The phrase "drawn over with a star" needs more background.

Exemplar: *The heart tattoo beneath his chin, now carefully covered by an iridescent star, seemed to pulse with the same rhythm as the celestial lights above - a constant reminder of what he'd tried to forget.*

■ Your writing shows promise in creating a magical atmosphere, but needs stronger connections between your story elements. The stars, Liam's perspective, and the tattoo feel like separate pieces rather than parts of one story. You could make your story stronger by showing how these elements work together to tell Liam's story. Try adding small details about why the stars mean so much to him.

Task: Rewrite the paragraph about Liam's tattoo, focusing on connecting it to his relationship with the stars and his desire for escape.

Score: 38/50

Section 2:

#1: Every midnight, the stars above the village flickered off for exactly one minute, but only Liam seemed to notice. ~~They glowed ethereally every night in the evening light,~~ [Each night, they glowed ethereally in the evening light,] illuminating the sky with hope.

#2: Everyone saw the stars like decorations. ~~They would admire them for a moment before going back to their own activities.~~ [The villagers would pause briefly to admire them before returning to their activities.] But Liam saw it as an escape from this world, an opening to another dimension, but one that would cease to be reachable for short periods.

#3: ~~His tattoo of a heart just under his chin had been drawn over with a star, which glowed in the moonlight just like his silver, shiny clothes.~~ [Under his chin, where a heart tattoo had once been, now gleamed a star that caught the moonlight like his silver clothes.] But he knew what that tattoo meant even if he did not want to remember. It was a painful memory...

Whenever the stars disappeared, he would think of it as retribution for his bad deeds and the reappearance as a second chance to reach back out. A new opportunity to make amends.

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

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

- Shows understanding of multiple aspects beyond academics
- Links personal qualities to practical actions

Weaknesses: Repetitive ideas → You mention "helping others" multiple times without expanding on different ways to help. Missing specific examples → "Always listening and being focused" could be supported with real classroom situations you've experienced.

Exemplar: *Being a good student means demonstrating curiosity by asking thoughtful questions in class, showing perseverance when tackling challenging maths problems, and supporting classmates who struggle with their coursework.*

#2 (Response about unfair treatment) Strengths:

- Clear step-by-step approach
- Shows consideration for safety and proper procedure

Weaknesses: Limited perspective → Your response focuses mainly on physical conflicts, but unfair treatment can take many forms like exclusion or verbal bullying. Short sentences → "I would then see if There was anything else I could do" needs more detail about specific actions.

Exemplar: *When I notice someone being treated unfairly, I first assess whether it's verbal bullying, physical aggression, or social exclusion, then approach a teacher while keeping the victim in sight to ensure their safety.*

#3 (Isaac Newton response) Strengths:

- Shows genuine interest in the subject
- Questions demonstrate forward thinking

Weaknesses: Surface-level knowledge → Your description of Newton's contributions mentions gravity but misses his other significant work. Limited questions → Your questions could explore more specific aspects of his scientific methods.

Exemplar: *I would ask Newton about his process of developing calculus alongside his gravity theories, and how he thinks these mathematical tools could be applied to modern space exploration.*

■ Your answers would benefit from more personal examples and deeper exploration of each topic. In the first response, try sharing a specific instance where you demonstrated good student behaviour. For the unfair treatment scenario, consider adding different types of situations you might encounter. Your Newton response could include more specific details about his work that interests you. Remember to write longer responses that fully develop your ideas.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 To me being a good student means more than just achieving high grades—it encompasses a range of positive qualities and behaviours. It is also about curiosity, perseverance, dedication and ~~consideration of others~~ [consideration for others]. ~~Always listening and being focused is one of the key needs of a student which is supported by curiosity, perseverance and dedication~~ [Listening attentively and maintaining focus are key qualities of a good student, supported by curiosity, perseverance and dedication]. It is also important to respect others to set role models ~~to~~ [for] other people, bringing out your character strengths to help others. This includes using strength to protect others instead of harming others, using intelligence to come up with plans that benefit other people and dedicating yourself to help people.

#2 ~~The first and most important aspect of breaking up a fight is to stay calm~~ [Staying calm is the most important aspect when addressing conflict] so you can act as a neutral third perspective that just eliminates the problem instead of heating it up. I would then try to stall ~~out it~~ [it out] by moving the victim away while trying to get a teacher. I would try to assess the situation during this phase so I can explain to the teacher more directly and without ~~and~~ misinformation. After the teacher is there, I would try ~~comfort~~ [to comfort] the victim and figure out what happened. I would then see if ~~There~~ [there] was anything else I could do like getting medical treatments from the office before going back to my activities.

#3 It would be ~~Issac~~ [Isaac] Newton due to his massive contributions to the theory of gravity which greatly benefited the research of my favourite subject, space due to gravity controlling orbits and space overall which is what he is known for. He also was the one who ~~lay~~ [laid] the foundations for people like Einstein and overall, greatly benefited research in all subjects. He found out how to also explain this with math which allowed many people to get better understanding of it. Here are my questions I would ask:

1. How do you think your contributions helped society?
2. If you were here in 2025, what would you do?

3. How did you study the subject and what would you recommend to aspiring space enthusiasts?