

WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 "On the last day of summer, Lucas found a glass jar buried in the sand, and inside was a message written in a language he couldn't understand. The tinted yellow paper was slightly shrivelled and had a distinctive handwriting."

Strengths:

- Strong opening that creates curiosity and mystery
- Vivid sensory details about the paper's appearance

Weakness: Limited setting description → Your writing would benefit from establishing the beach setting more clearly. The phrase "buried in the sand" could be enhanced with details about where Lucas was on the beach and what brought him there.

Exemplar: *On the last day of summer, as Lucas wandered along the deserted shoreline collecting shells, his foot struck something hard - a glass jar buried in the wet sand.*

#2 "Could this message be from another race from an extraterrestrial planet? Lucas thought."

Strengths:

- Shows Lucas's imagination and curiosity
- Creates suspense through internal dialogue

Weakness: Underdeveloped thought process → Your character jumps to extraterrestrial conclusions too quickly. The phrase "Could this message be" would be more engaging if Lucas first considered other possibilities.

Exemplar: *Lucas's mind raced with possibilities - perhaps it was a secret code from a spy, or a treasure map from centuries ago, or maybe even a message from another world entirely.*

#3 "The past had returned to him."

Strengths:

- Powerful closing statement
- Creates emotional impact

Weakness: Rushed revelation → Your ending moves too quickly from discovery to conclusion. The phrase "The past had returned" needs more build-up about why these symbols are significant to Lucas.

Exemplar: *As memories flooded back, Lucas realised these weren't just random symbols - they were the secret language he had created during lonely summers at his grandmother's beach house.*

■ Your narrative has an intriguing premise about discovering a mysterious message, but needs deeper exploration of Lucas's emotional journey. You could strengthen the story by showing why Lucas created these symbols in the first place and what memories they bring back. Adding more details about his past would help readers understand why keeping this discovery secret is so important to him.

Actionable task: Rewrite the paragraph where Lucas recognises the symbols, focusing on including specific memories of when and why he created this secret language.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 On the last day of summer, Lucas found a glass jar buried in the sand, and inside was a message written in a language he couldn't understand. The tinted yellow paper was slightly shrivelled and had a distinctive handwriting.

#2 He cocked his head at the minute handwriting, illegible for human kind. ~~Could this message be from another race from an extraterrestrial planet?~~ [Was this message truly from another world, from beings beyond the stars?] Lucas thought.

As he completely revealed the unknown message, one symbol stood out from the rest, and he froze. He knew that symbol. It was a symbol that he created – when he was young.

#3 A peculiar concept struck his mind. ~~He had originally planned to spill his secret to his friends and ring Message In A Bottle Hunter,~~ [He had initially thought about sharing his discovery with his friends and contacting the Message In A Bottle Hunters,] if they could try to decipher the meaning, but he thought that it would be best if he kept it himself. After hours of thinking about the symbol, he discovered other similar symbols that he had known a long time ago. Rapidly, he yanked open his drawer and scoured through his papers, pulling out a specific paper. Now he

knew what the symbols meant. And he knew each one of them. But no one else could. The past had returned to him.

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. The stars completely turned dark, only the moon shone brightly in the night sky." Strengths:

- Strong opening hook that immediately creates intrigue
- Vivid contrast between darkness and moonlight

Weakness: Limited sensory details → Your description focuses mainly on sight. The mysterious moment could be enhanced by including how this strange occurrence affects the atmosphere of the village. "The stars completely turned dark" could be developed to show how this darkness changes the village's mood.

Exemplar: *When midnight struck, an eerie silence fell over the village as the stars winked out one by one, leaving only the moon's silvery light to cast long shadows across the empty streets.*

#2 "But the peculiar thing was nobody was bothered to point it out, or at least, nobody besides Liam." Strengths:

- Creates mystery through isolation of the main character
- Builds tension through collective ignorance

Weakness: Character reaction depth → Your writing shows Liam's isolation but doesn't explore his emotional response to being the only one who sees this phenomenon. How does it make him feel to be the only one aware of such a strange event?

Exemplar: *Liam's heart sank as he realised he was truly alone in his observation - each blank stare and dismissive laugh from the villagers only deepened his sense of isolation.*

#3 "This phenomenon made Liam believe this was delusional." Strengths:

- Introduces internal conflict
- Shows character development

Weakness: Emotional exploration → Your writing briefly mentions Liam's doubt but doesn't delve into his internal struggle between what he sees and what others believe.

Exemplar: *With each passing night, Liam began to question his own sanity - were his eyes playing tricks on him, or was he the only one brave enough to acknowledge the truth?*

■ Your writing presents an intriguing concept that sparks curiosity. You could strengthen your narrative by diving deeper into Liam's emotional journey and his relationship with the village community. Consider adding more details about how this nightly occurrence affects the village's atmosphere and Liam's daily life. You might explore why Liam is the only one who can see this phenomenon and what that means for his place in the community.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the second paragraph focusing on Liam's emotional response to being the only one who sees the stars disappear, and include specific examples of how villagers react when he tries to tell them about it.

Score: 37/50

Section 2:

#1 Every midnight, the stars above the village flickered off for exactly one minute, but only Liam seemed to notice. The stars completely turned dark, only the moon shone brightly in the night sky.

#2 ~~But the peculiar thing was nobody was bothered to point it out, or at least, nobody besides Liam.~~ [What troubled Liam most was that no one else seemed to notice, let alone mention it.] Anyone Liam asked about the stars flickering off at night considered him as ~~completely bonkers in the head~~ [utterly mad].

#3 ~~This phenomenon made Liam believe this was delusional.~~ [The nightly phenomenon left Liam questioning his own sanity.] Each night the lights flickered off, then on, at the same time, while the moon shone brightly, contrasting with the dark, mysterious night.

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

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

- Clear organisation of ideas with well-structured points about academic and social aspects
- Good use of specific examples to illustrate student qualities

Weaknesses: Generic content → Your answer could be more personal by including specific examples from your own experience as a student. Phrases like "being dedicated, curious, and proactive" are too general.

Exemplar: ***Instead of just saying "actively engaging in material", you could write: "I actively engage by taking detailed notes during lessons and reviewing them daily to ensure I understand the concepts thoroughly."***

#2 (Second paragraph about being a good student) Strengths:

- Includes both academic and social aspects of being a good student
- Shows understanding of interpersonal relationships

Weaknesses: Contradictory ideas → Your point about honesty contains mixed messages. You mention "whether they have to tell the disturbing truth to a teacher or lie about it" which contradicts the value of honesty.

Exemplar: ***"A good student maintains integrity by always being truthful with teachers and peers, even in difficult situations."***

#3 (Answer about Albert Einstein) Strengths:

- Shows personal connection to the historical figure
- Demonstrates interest in science

Weaknesses: Historical accuracy → Your response mentions an apple falling which relates to Newton's discovery of gravity, not Einstein. Einstein is known for the theory of relativity.

Exemplar: ***"I would ask Einstein about how he developed his theory of relativity and what inspired him to think differently about space and time."***

■ Your answers would benefit from more specific examples and personal experiences. Try to expand your responses by including real situations you've encountered. When discussing

historical figures, make sure you connect the right discoveries to the right scientists. Your answers are quite brief - aim to develop your ideas further by explaining the reasoning behind your choices and views.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 Being a good student, to me, means being dedicated, curious, and proactive in learning. It's about actively engaging in the material, asking questions, and seeking a deeper understanding, rather than just ~~memorizing~~ [memorising] facts. A good student is responsible, manages their time effectively, and strives to meet deadlines while maintaining a strong work ethic. It also involves being open to feedback, embracing challenges, and continuously improving. Beyond academics, it means showing respect for peers, contributing to discussions, and creating a positive learning environment. Ultimately, it's about being committed to personal growth and achieving excellence in all areas.

#2 Being a good student to me is to be honest, dedicated, and compassionate. It is also about actively participating during class, like answering questions instead of sitting there and doing nothing. ~~A good student is honest in everything they say, whether they have to tell the disturbing truth to a teacher or lie about it.~~ [A good student demonstrates honesty in all situations, especially when communicating with teachers and peers.] They also care deeply about their peer, supporting them in times of need and making them feel included. Lastly, they never give up in any field of learning, whether it is easy or complicated for them. Ultimately, it is about persevering to try their best and be kind to others.

If I saw someone treated unfairly then firstly, I would go up to the accuser and try to figure out what had happened. If I feel that it is appropriate to explain it to an adult, I would most definitely ask for help from them, but when it's personal and the unfairly treated person would not want to share it, I would talk through it and see what's best for them. I would try to find ways that would alleviate the depression that they felt from being treated unfairly, such as spending the rest of our time with them or exploring and playing one of their hobbies.

~~#3 I would like to meet Albert Einstein because he has always inspired me to persevere and never give up. If he could study and learn all day, then I could too. One question that i would ask him is what though initially came up in his mind when the apple fell from the tree to the ground. I am very eager to know what he will say as I am intrigued by the concept of gravity, and what the first thoughts of a professor like him would first think of.~~ [I would like to meet Albert Einstein

because he has always inspired me to persevere and never give up. If he could study and learn all day, then I could too. One question I would ask him is what thoughts initially inspired his theory of relativity. I am very eager to know what he would say, as I am intrigued by his revolutionary ideas about space and time.]