

Section 1:

#1 (Opening paragraph) Strengths:

- Creates immediate intrigue by placing characters in an unusual situation
- Establishes clear setting and timeframe

Weakness: Limited Scene Setting → Your opening could benefit from more vivid details about the attic and time machine. Phrases like "rusty, old time machine" give basic information but miss opportunities for deeper sensory details.

Exemplar: *The musty air of my dimly lit attic filled our lungs as Lilly and I stood before an imposing copper machine, its mysterious dials gleaming in the afternoon light.*

#2 (Ancient Greece arrival) Strengths:

- Good use of dialogue to show characters' reactions
- Includes sensory details like smell of herbs

Weakness: Underdeveloped Cultural Elements → Your description of Ancient Greece focuses mainly on clothes and buildings. The interaction with locals and daily life could be more detailed. Phrases like "strange looking people staring at us" could delve deeper into specific customs or behaviours.

Exemplar: *The marketplace bustled with merchants calling out in Greek, their voices mixing with the bleating of goats and the sharp tang of olive oil wafting from ceramic amphoras.*

#3 (Time machine repair sequence) Strengths:

- Shows problem-solving skills of characters
- Includes learning and adaptation to new environment

Weakness: Rushed Resolution → Your ending moves too quickly through important events. Phrases like "It took us days to find the stuff" and "after days and days" skip over potentially interesting details about their survival and learning experiences.

Exemplar: *Each morning, we ventured to the agora, learning to barter with local merchants using gestures and the few Greek words we'd picked up. Slowly, our pile of machine parts grew.*

■ Your story has a creative premise and interesting historical elements. To make it more engaging, try expanding on the characters' emotional journey and their specific challenges in Ancient Greece. Adding more details about how they overcome language barriers and cultural differences would make their adventure more believable. Focus on showing how the experience changes them as people.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the section about finding supplies for the time machine, focusing on one specific challenge they faced and how they overcame it through problem-solving and teamwork.

Score: 37/50

Section 2:

~~5 minutes ago, Me~~ [Five minutes ago, I] and Lilly were in my attic, and ~~now, we're~~ [now we are] wandering around ~~eluelessly~~ [aimlessly] in ~~a unfamiliar environment~~ [an unfamiliar environment].

~~It was the year 2025, 15 January, on Wednesday.~~ [It was Wednesday, 15th January 2025.] ~~Until,~~ [When] we both stepped into the rusty, old time machine that we'd found in my attic, ~~brainlessly~~ [carelessly] set up a random time, thinking it was some random joke, ~~both stepped inside,~~ switching on the ~~on~~ button. ~~We're~~ [We were] both giggling, ~~until,~~ [when] I ~~look~~ [looked] at my phone, and the time was spinning ~~speedily~~ [rapidly], like probably 50 ~~kph~~ [kilometres per hour].

"Wait!" cried out Lilly [,] "What's happening!" "Can't you see!" I ~~Exclaimed~~ [exclaimed,] "We're obviously ~~timetraveling~~ [time travelling]!"

I really ~~couldn't~~ [couldn't] believe that this was happening. I was getting quite nauseous, but then "DING!" the machine stopped shaking. I stepped outside to a sudden strong smell of herbs, like mint and ~~organo~~ [oregano].

~~"ough"~~ ["Ugh,"] I coughed", [,] ~~"Really~~ ["Really] didn't expect the smell to be this strong," I muttered.

"Should I come out now?" ~~Questioned~~ [questioned] Lilly[,] "How does it smell?"

"Quite strong, but ~~its~~ [it's] alright."

"Sure?"

"Yes, just come out now!"

"~~Ok~~ [Okay] then."

Lilly stepped out of the time machine. "~~ough~~, ["Ugh,] oh ~~yeh~~ [yeah,] ~~thats~~ [that's] some strong air, but while we're here ~~lets~~ [let's] explore!"

Listening to Lilly's idea [,] we wandered around for a while. Walking into a hall of strange looking people staring at us, like ~~if~~ me and ~~lilly~~ [Lilly] were a different species. I then ~~realised~~ [realized] how all of the people had a ~~completly~~ [completely] different ~~fasion~~ [fashion] sense or so I thought different clothes.

"What kind of language ~~are~~ [do] these people even speak?" Lilly questioned me in curiosity. "Can you check your phone?"

"Sure~~," ~~I glanced at my phone, suddenly wide-eyed.~~ [,] "700 BC! Ancient Greece!"

"Do you not know what 700 BC is?" replied Lilly [,] "~~its~~ [It's] obviously a time period."

"Whatever, smartypants. So they probably speak ~~greek~~ [Greek]."

I looked around [,] realising how ~~similier~~ [similar] the ~~mens~~ [men's] and ~~woman~~ [women's] clothes were, both made out of silk, just that the men's clothes ~~was~~ [were] shorter. I looked at one specific man [,] He had a silky funny looking thing that looked ~~a~~ [like a] dress. That was so different to what we were wearing in our time.

"You see those men?" Lilly told me [,] "They're wearing a thing called a himation[;] usually men who work get a skirt version of it."

We walked and walked for hours [,] stumbling across a massive building [,] a strange one [,] it was ~~extremley~~ [extremely] tall and ~~look~~ [looked] a little bit ~~wreaked~~ [wrecked].

"That's [the] Acropolis of Athens!" exclaimed Lilly [,] "~~Its~~ [It's] one of my favourites and the most historical landmark!"

"Wow, It looks so much different ~~then~~ [than] what we live in," I replied.

We both sat down on a bench enjoying the view, but didn't really mind the noise ~~in the back~~ [behind us]. We saw people ~~traveling~~ [travelling] by ships [,] there ~~was~~ [were] no cars, just some wagons, or people ~~traveling~~ [travelling] by foot. After that, we walked back to the time machine, little did we know it was broken.

"~~Its~~ [It's] BROKEN?" exclaimed Lilly [,] "How are we supposed to go back now!"

"Calm down. ~~Lets~~ [Let's] try to read some books," I said.

"How?" asked Lilly [.] "~~Its~~ [It's] not like we understand Greek."

"Google translate," I replied.

We both walked into the nearest library [.] It looked really different ~~form~~ [from] our libraries. ~~But,~~ [We] read a lot of books. We both learned how Ancient Greeks had to catch food by hand, walk 40 miles to just get fresh water, had to adapt ~~on~~ [to] evacuating their ~~house~~ [houses] because of the volcanos and how this one book mentioned something about how this demi-god named "~~Alexandria~~ [Alexander] the Great" had found this library. And what seemed like hours [.] we've found it, "How to make a time machine". It took us days to find the stuff that we needed for our time machine, but within those days, we've slowly learnt ~~on~~ how to adapt to this unique ~~enviroment~~ [environment]. ~~Learnt~~ [We learnt] how to catch fish by hand, ~~Get~~ [get] water, and even found a small house. It wasn't the best, but was ~~all~~ [all] we could rely on for shelter.

And after days and days, me and Lilly finally found the supplies that we needed and built the time machine, set up the time, date and year. Then said goodbye to Ancient Greece, stepped inside, and ~~traveled~~ [travelled] back to our own time.

It was a great adventure [.] I wish that ~~some-day~~ [someday], I could tell kids about this story and hopefully it will be passed on.