

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong sensory details with the description of the key's blue gems and morning light
- Effective use of simile comparing heartbeat to a train

Weakness: Limited build-up of mystery → Your opening could better establish why finding this key is significant. The phrase "I found a golden key, but I felt that it wasn't just any golden key" feels rushed. The discovery needs more context to draw readers in.

Exemplar: *As I wandered beneath the ancient fig tree that morning, something caught my eye - a gleam of gold half-buried in the dewy grass. My hands trembled as I reached for what appeared to be no ordinary key.*

#2 (Cave of horrors passage): Strengths:

- Creates tension through auditory details of evil spirits
- Good pacing with quick action sequence

Weakness: Underdeveloped atmosphere → Your description of the cave lacks deeper emotional impact. Phrases like "I was sick in my stomach" and "I didn't like this at all" tell rather than show the fear. The cave's threatening nature needs more vivid details.

Exemplar: *The cave's darkness pressed against my skin as invisible voices hissed threats from every shadow. Each step echoed off the slick, mossy walls, making me feel watched from all sides.*

#3 (Final paragraph): Strengths:

- Nice circular ending returning to the garden
- Good reflection on how the adventure changed perspective

Weakness: Rushed resolution → Your ending wraps up too quickly. The phrase "everything in my garden felt special" needs more specific details about how things changed. The transformation deserves more development.

Exemplar: *Now when I look at my garden, even the smallest dewdrop holds magic. The roses don't just bloom - they whisper secrets, and the morning light dances with the same golden sparkle as that mysterious key.*

■ Your story has a wonderful magical premise but needs more depth in key moments. Try spending more time describing the emotional journey of your character - their fears, hopes and inner thoughts throughout the adventure. Your dialogue moves the plot along well, but adding more reaction to the extraordinary events would make the story more engaging. Consider expanding the ending to show more specifically how this adventure changed your character's view of the world.

Actionable task: Rewrite the cave scene focusing specifically on your character's emotional state and physical reactions to the horror elements. Include at least three vivid sensory details about the cave's atmosphere.

Score: 38/50

Section 2:

Under the old fig tree was a golden key

~~I found a golden key, but I felt that it wasn't just any golden key.~~ [As I held the golden key in my trembling hands, I knew instantly it was extraordinary.] As soon as I ~~touch~~ [touched] the key, I felt a pulse, like ~~if~~ I was the chosen one and a golden light ~~shimmer~~ [shimmered]. It was decorated with small blue, shiny gems that caught the morning light like stars. I picked it up and strolled through the lush grass ~~with each by each~~ [as each blade] ~~being~~ [was] flattened by my footsteps, as it pulled me gently towards a wooden door. I felt my heart pounding, like a train pounding down the tracks, as I tiptoed towards the door ~~in-cautioness~~ [cautiously]. #1

But just when I inserted the key into the golden ~~door-knob~~ [doorknob], a golden, bright light shone on my face. Abruptly, a ~~short-like~~ [short] gnome exited out of it with its blue, ocean eyes staring brightly at me. I felt ~~a-glimpse~~ [a glimpse of] joy inside me. "Greetings, Fellow one!" exclaimed the gnome [.] "I have seen that my good, old key has ~~lead~~ [led] you here!" I was too stunned to speak. Gnomes really existed? "Oh yes, We gnomes have always been here!" answered the gnome. "~~W-what, How~~ [How] on earth did you read my mind!" I exclaimed in disbelief. "This ~~just~~ [is just] our special ability!" replied the gnome. "Now if you take pleasure ~~into~~ [in it], please follow me." The gnome swiftly ~~look~~ [looked] left and right making sure no one was to see this great scene. "~~Aight~~" ["Alright,"] said the gnome. "Good to go."

I followed the gnome into the magical and enchanted cave. As I ~~walk-throughh~~ [walked through] the luminescent pathway, bright crystals sang melodic harmonies. Delightful, glowing flowers whispered ancient secrets, never to be heard. And wind peered through the cracks whistling to

me. I felt enchantment and joy ~~peer~~ [surge] inside my heart, with a slight tingle of ~~nerve~~ [nerves] slowly peering inside. "And we're here!" exclaimed the gnome.

We were welcomed by a ~~breath-taking~~ [breathtaking] ~~scenery~~ [scenery]. The ~~colourful~~ [colourful] birds' tuneful melody combined with golden and purple swirls of magic. I gasped, this was like a whole different world and ~~if~~ [as if] the ground beneath my ~~feet~~ [feet] had transformed into something new. I watched as the monkeys jumped onto the vines rippling it down like water, swinging ~~to each and each~~ [from one vine to another]. But what caught my eye the most was the rainbow light spiraling out, with all kinds of different butterflies ~~fly~~ [flying] gracefully through the sky and how ~~clairvoyant~~ [radiant] this land was.

"Hey, why did you bring me here?" I asked. "~~Ough~~ [Oh], Well I need your help," The gnome replied. "We need to get the king of gems, that is the 'Red Ruby.'" "Why?" I asked. "If the dark ~~wizards~~ [wizards] end up taking the Red ~~ruby~~ [Ruby] first, they will destroy our kingdom, therefore it is our job to get the ~~red-ruby~~ [Red Ruby] in order to protect our land." "Ok," I said. I didn't know how I could do this, but I knew I had to. "Follow me," The gnome instructed.

I followed along. When we got to the green, ~~spikey~~ [spiky] vines, the gnome jumped onto the vine, swiftly swinging from one vine to another until he ~~land~~ [landed] 8 metres from the ground. "Come on!" he said. So I followed along carefully ~~swinging~~ [swinging] vine to vine. I felt the thorns pricking my skin and blood dripping out, but ~~ive~~ [I'd] already made it this far and I wasn't going to let that stop me from getting the Red Ruby. "Good, now we have to get through the cave of horrors and quickly get the Red Ruby," said the gnome. #2

We walked ~~for a~~ through the dark cave for a while. I was sick in my stomach, I could hear the evil ~~sprits~~ [spirits] whispering threats to me, as I walked through the deadly pathway. I didn't know about the gnome, but I didn't like this at all. The cave floor was slippery, since there was a lot of moss and water. Suddenly there was a [an] ear-splitting rumbling noise. "What was that?" I ~~mumbed~~ [mumbled] standing ~~completly~~ [completely] still. "The cave is probably gonna ~~elapse~~ [collapse]!" Shouted the gnome. "Run!" I didn't know what was going to happen, my ~~hear~~ [heart] was racing. I didn't feel joy, or magic anymore, all of the fear that was slowly inside me, rushed all at once in my heart, as if I was going to faint. Then that's when it happened, we both escaped alive.

"No one has ever escaped that cave before!" exclaimed the gnome. "Well we need to get the Red Ruby!" I gasped, gasping for air. "Yes, ~~lets~~ [let's] go." We both ran for what seemed like ~~for ever~~ [forever], but there it was. The Red ~~ruby~~ [Ruby]. "We've found it!" The gnome exclaimed. "Finally!" I blurted out. The gnome picked it up[,] ~~Looking~~ [looking] at it in ~~greatnesses~~ [greatness]. "~~Lets~~ [Let's] both hold it and it will carry us back." "Okay." We both held the Red ~~ruby~~ [Ruby] and I teleported back to my backyard.

Upon returning from the magical and mysterious world, I felt the magic return back to me and ~~that~~ everything in my garden felt special. Everything was glowing. I reached into my pocket to ~~realise~~ [realise] that the extraordinary key faded into golden dust. I smiled, my stomach was now filled with butterflies. My perspective of the world has forever ~~ehaged~~ [changed] because of this mystical adventure and ~~that~~ I'll see the world differently through a new lens. #3