

Section 1:

#1 "I climbed into bed...falling, falling, falling....." Strengths:

- Strong scene-setting creates anticipation
- Effective use of sensory details with the "golden glow"

Weakness: Underdeveloped transition → Your transition from reading to falling lacks detail. The phrase "burst of colour erupted" feels rushed and doesn't build enough suspense for such a significant moment in your story.

Exemplar: *As I turned the first page, a warm golden light began seeping through the spine, growing brighter until it filled my entire room. Before I could process what was happening, the light exploded in a rainbow of colours, and suddenly the floor disappeared beneath me.*

#2 "It had been a while...for as long as I had." Strengths:

- Good connection to fantasy stories showing knowledge
- Clear internal thought process

Weakness: Repetitive phrasing → Your writing repeats "magic" and "magical" too often. The sentence "I was not, but, after all, there is a first time for everything!" feels disconnected from your exciting adventure.

Exemplar: *Though I'd never encountered anything supernatural before, the mysterious transportation could only mean one thing - I had stumbled into a world of enchantment, and I intended to explore every corner of it while I could.*

#3 "The unicorns were not...otherworldly beauty." Strengths:

- Vivid description of unique unicorns
- Beautiful imagery with moonlight

Weakness: Limited emotional depth → Your reaction to seeing mythical creatures lacks personal feelings. The phrase "I could hardly believe my eyes" tells rather than shows your amazement.

Exemplar: *My heart raced as I watched the majestic creatures, their silver coats catching the moonlight like scattered stars. Never in my wildest dreams had I imagined unicorns could be so breathtaking.*

■ Your diary entry creates an exciting fantasy adventure, but you could make it more engaging by adding more of your thoughts and feelings throughout the experience. Try describing your fears, excitement, or wonder in more detail. When writing about magical events, take time to paint a fuller picture of each scene. You could also expand on what you learned from this magical journey.

Actionable task: Rewrite the paragraph about discovering you're in a magical place, focusing on your emotional reaction and including specific details about your surroundings that made you realise this wasn't an ordinary place.

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**Score: 42/50**

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Section 2:

Fantastic Fantasy 15 July, 2021

Dear Diary,

#1 I climbed into bed and wriggled under the sheets, exhausted from another long day. I lay my head down on the pillow, and opened my new favourite book, ecstatic about finally getting to read. When I opened the book, an unusually warm, golden glow seemed to be spilling out of the spine of the book, ~~somehow, though~~ [though somehow], it must have just been either the light it was in or my eyes playing tricks on me. Suddenly, a burst of colour erupted from the novel, and I had the horrible yet thrilling sensation of falling, falling, falling.....

My eyelids did not want to open. It was as if they had been glued to my eyeballs to stop them from opening. I forced them open, only to have to close them straight away, because what I saw in that split second could not possibly be real. Maybe I was still dreaming. Or maybe I really had better finally go to the appointment with the optometrist that had been postponed too many times. I opened my eyes again, afraid of what might meet them. It was still there. Luscious green colour, all around me, tall, beautiful trees dotted around the landscape like salt on a dish. I sat up, stood up, unable to believe my whereabouts. ~~I never came here!~~ [I had never been here before!] How, on earth, did I get here, then? I did not know. I still do not quite know now, although I do know a lot more than I did then.

#2 It had been a while of standing, looking around in awe, and wondering whatever was on my mind at that very moment, that I realised that whatever this was, it must have had something to do with magic. In my story books and novels, the characters who somehow ended up somewhere unknown, somewhere magical, always found their ways back home, even if it did take a while. In

those stories, all the characters were in league with some kind of magic, or magical elements. I was not, but, after all, there is a first time for everything! I decided that the magic would most likely wear off, and I would be delivered right back into my bed, where I figured this whole thing must have started from, when I opened that book. I decided that I should make the most of the time I had here, and decided to do that by exploring this curious place, for as long as I had.

It was getting dark, and I still had not felt anything like what I had when I first arrived here, falling for what seemed like eternity. On my little adventure, I had seen beautiful flowers, small green hills, and even some creatures that had never seemed real! I saw pixies, forest fairies, and even unicorns grazing in a small meadow.

#3 ~~The unicorns were not your stereotypical creature,~~ [These weren't your stereotypical unicorns with] pink horn, white fur, and purple hoofs. My breath caught in my throat as I approached the meadow. The unicorns, their silver fur shimmering in the moonlight, seemed to glow with an otherworldly beauty. I could hardly believe my eyes! When it became clear that I was not going to be getting posted back home any time soon, I decided to spend the night right where I arrived. I found a nice, soft patch of moss, lay down, and let my eyelids become heavy.

Finally I was home! It felt too good to be true. I had had a fantastic time, but there is no place like home, after all.

Sweet Dreams, Sarah