## Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Vivid sensory details that paint a clear picture of the beach scene
- Effective use of varied sentence structure to create rhythm

Weakness: Limited connection between scenes  $\rightarrow$  Your writing jumps between Lucas finding the jar and describing the beach activities without establishing a clear link. The shift from "Lucas found a glass jar" to "waves rippled onto the shore" feels disconnected.

Exemplar: Lucas found a glass jar buried in the sand, his discovery momentarily distracting him from the lively beach scene unfolding before him.

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong emotional development of Bob's character
- Effective use of metaphor with "mind, a storm of thoughts"

Weakness: Character consistency  $\rightarrow$  Your writing introduces Bob without explaining his connection to Lucas from the first paragraph. The narrative suddenly shifts focus to a new character without establishing their relationship.

Exemplar: Bob watched Lucas discover the jar, his own anxiety about the new school term momentarily forgotten.

#3 (Third paragraph) Strengths:

- Creative personification of the bottle
- Good build-up of suspense

Weakness: Overuse of similar descriptions  $\rightarrow$  Your writing repeats the idea of Bob's emotional state using similar phrases. "Stared down the bottle" and "glared" convey the same meaning.

Exemplar: Bob approached the mysterious bottle with mixed emotions, his curiosity eventually winning over his hesitation.

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating atmosphere and building suspense. However, you need to work on connecting your scenes and characters more smoothly. The sudden switch between Lucas and Bob creates confusion for your readers. Consider developing the relationship

between these two characters to make your story more cohesive. The mysterious message at the end leaves room for intrigue, but needs more context to make it meaningful.

Actionable task: Rewrite the first two paragraphs focusing on establishing a clear connection between Lucas and Bob, ensuring their relationship is clear to the reader.

Score: 40/50

## 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 waves rippled onto the shore, aquamarine droplets spreading out in the immaculate, silky sand. [The waves rippled onto the shore, sending aquamarine droplets across the immaculate, silky sand.] A cacophony of children screaming came from the foreshore as an adult squirted water onto them. Surfers balanced on their boards as the [they] slid down a mountain of water, their eyes focused with concentration and lips closed, not willing to let the salty sea water get in.

#2 Bob had come to the beach to relax his mind about the upcoming school term. [Bob had come to the beach, hoping to relax his mind about the upcoming school term.] He shivered every time he thought about going to a new school. His mind, a storm of thoughts and emotion, was unable to calm down in the upcoming days of the school term. He figured that going to the beach would be able to relax his mind into a state of tranquility, and after a few hours he was relaxed and serene, but after seeing the bottle, he felt tense all over again, as if the three hours he spent relaxing on the beach was no use at all. [After a few hours at the beach, he had finally found tranquility, but seeing the bottle made him tense all over again, as if his three hours of relaxation had been pointless.]

#3 Taking a deep breath, Bob wiped the sweat off his hands and stared down the bottle. It was almost like the bottle was smirking at him, uncontrollably laughing at how he just wasted three hours for nothing. But Bob was also curious, even when he glared, he looked wistful, with anticipation building up, he had no choice but to open it. Inside it was a piece of paper tied to a tiny string that looked like it can [came] from a bygone era. The paper itself, tea-stained and brown, dared Bob to open it and so he did, gently untying the knot and the paper itself opened up and fell onto his lap.

It read: Only you can save me. And nothing else.