TERM 1 2025 | WEEK 1 - Year 6 Reading & Writing

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong opening that builds suspense through weather imagery
- Effective use of contrast between drought and sudden storm

Weakness: Limited scene development \rightarrow Your description of Melpoint lacks depth. The phrase "the town of Melpoint has been in a large drought" could benefit from sensory details about how the drought affected the town and its people.

Exemplar: The parched streets of Melpoint lay silent, cracked earth yearning for rain as Jaxon watched the storm clouds gather ominously overhead.

#2 (Third paragraph): Strengths:

- Good pacing of action through logical steps
- Natural inclusion of parental permission adds realism

Weakness: Underdeveloped character motivation \rightarrow Your portrayal of Jaxon's decision feels rushed. The line "so he decided to take his car" needs more insight into why he would venture out in such dangerous conditions.

Exemplar: Despite the howling wind and his parents' concerns, Jaxon couldn't shake the feeling that these mysterious coordinates held the key to something extraordinary.

#3 (Final paragraph): Strengths:

- Effective build-up of tension
- Strong cliff-hanger ending

Weakness: Abrupt conclusion \rightarrow Your ending feels too sudden. The phrase "He was spending the night in the cemetery" leaves many questions unanswered about Jaxon's emotional state and immediate plans.

Exemplar: As darkness crept in and the cemetery gates creaked in the wind, Jaxon's heart raced. With no way out and his phone useless, he realised this would be the longest night of his life.

■ Your piece shows promise in creating an engaging mystery, but needs more emotional depth to truly grip readers. The setting of Melpoint could be enriched with vivid details that help readers

picture the environment. Additionally, Jaxon's character needs stronger development - share his thoughts and feelings throughout his journey. Also, the mysterious figure and green fog deserve more attention as they are crucial elements of your story. You might want to focus on improving the first paragraph by adding more details about the drought's impact on the town. The middle section could benefit from deeper exploration of Jaxon's determination to solve the mystery. Lastly, the ending needs more resolution to satisfy readers.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

A HERO'S JOURNEY

As the storm grew bigger Jaxon grew more and more curious with his questions doubling every minute. [As the storm intensified, Jaxon's curiosity grew, his questions multiplying with each passing minute.] #1 For the past 3 months the town of Melpoint has been [had been] in a large drought and it was said to continue for another month or two. But the weather had other plans. Suddenly there was a big bang outside, he looked outside and saw green fog from where the sound came from. While the fog began to clear up, he could make out a figure.

He then went outside to take a closer look. By the time he took 5 steps he was already drenched but he was determined to find out what the thing was. Once he reached the place where he thought the figure was, all that was left was a note. The note had coordinates. He picked up the note and ran back inside to check where the coordinates lead to.

#2 He put the coordinates on google maps [Google Maps] and it led to the abandoned cemetery around 5 minutes away from his house. The storm was beginning to quiet down a bit, so he decided to take his car and drive to the cemetery. He asked his parents, they were [who were] a bit sceptical at first because it was beginning to get late, but they said yes and then he left with his phone, the note and an umbrella.

Once he arrived at the cemetery, he only took his phone and got out of the car looked around and seemed [looked around, seeming] to be hallucinating because everywhere he looked, he saw a figure just watching him and he felt as if he was being followed. When passing the crematorium, he thought he saw something green, so he went to check it out. As he suspected there was nothing there apart from a note that read 'good luck getting out'. Then there was a click. He suspected nothing too bad but when he went to the door, it wouldn't budge. He was locked in the crematorium. Without any other way to get out he looked around for a sharp item and found a screwdriver on the table.

He used it to try and break the glass and get out before something worse happened. He managed to break a bit of the glass and then he kicked the window again with his foot to shatter the glass. Once outside he ran to his car out of fright of something worse happening when he realised that his car was not there.

#3 When he got his phone out to call his dad to pick him up there was no signal. Then he looked down and to his surprise saw another note reading 'Goodnight'. He was spending the night in the cemetery.