

01-

Section 1:

#1 "The saxophone player looked at his new music piece sheet. A B A A A C A D A A BC A E E A A A A A E C D B E E A A A A A A A A. He started to play, and winds whirled around him..."

Strengths:

- Creative use of musical notes to build mystery
- Strong visual imagery with the wind and purple dot elements

Weakness: Limited setup and character background → Your opening moves too quickly into the action without helping readers connect with the saxophone player. Phrases like "looked at his new music piece sheet" could be expanded to show his feelings or thoughts about the piece.

The saxophone player's hands trembled as he studied the mysterious sheet music, his eyes widening at the strange pattern of notes that seemed to pulse on the page.

#2 "Used to playing music when he was scared, he kept playing, but then the breath was snatched from his mouth..."

Strengths:

- Shows character's determination
- Good build-up of tension

Weakness: Rushed pacing → Your writing speeds through important moments too quickly. The phrase "breath was snatched from his mouth" needs more detail about how this felt to the character.

Though his heart pounded with fear, he forced himself to keep playing. Suddenly, an icy force grabbed his breath, leaving him gasping as his fingers froze on the keys.

#3 "The saxophone played gripped onto the ground for life, but kept getting pulled closer and closer..."

Strengths:

- Effective use of repetition with "closer and closer"

- Clear sense of danger and urgency

Weakness: Unclear physical descriptions → Your writing needs to show exactly how the character moves. Phrases like "gripped onto the ground" don't paint a clear picture of his actions.

The saxophone player dug his fingers into the floorboards and pressed his body flat against the ground, but the force dragged him inch by inch towards the swirling darkness.

■ Your piece has a strong foundation with its magical concept of music creating a portal. You can make your story even better by slowing down key moments to build more suspense. Try adding more details about how the saxophone player feels throughout the story. You could describe the sounds of the portal mixing with his music. Also, spend more time showing readers who the saxophone player is before the strange events begin. Your story would be stronger if you showed his normal life first, then brought in the magical elements. Additionally, you could describe the portal's appearance more clearly to help readers picture it better. Remember to use all five senses in your descriptions.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 The saxophone player looked at his ~~new music piece sheet~~ [new sheet music]. A B A A A C A D A A BC A E E A A A A A E C D B E E A A A A A A A A A. He started to play, and winds whirled around him, moving at great speeds, the air became cold, and a purple dot appeared. The saxophone player, so engrossed in his new tune, didn't even notice, and kept playing. The longer he played, the faster the winds whirled, the colder the air became, and the bigger the dot grew. Finally, after a few minutes of this, the saxophone player noticed.

#2 ~~Used to playing music when he was scared, he kept playing,~~ [Though he often played music to calm his fears, he continued playing,] but then the breath was snatched from his mouth, and he couldn't play music, and the portal started to pull things in. First a bench, then a bin, then some pictures someone had dropped. ~~The saxophone player gripped onto the ground for life~~ [The saxophone player gripped the ground for dear life], but kept getting pulled closer and closer and closer and closer. He couldn't fight it.

#3 As his saxophone fell into the portal, tears found their way onto his eyes as [while] the portal sucked the saxophone up, and the musician prayed for his life. The ~~musicians'~~ [musician's] hands left the ground, and he desperately tried to grab onto something, but everything was smooth. The

saxophone player let out a scream that stopped halfway as he was sucked into the inter-dimensional portal, which then immediately closed.

Section 1:

#1 "Jackie the golden retriever was simply walking around when he heard someone speaking. He put his ear to the wall the sound was coming from, and listened. He heard the words 'nuclear bomb', 'China' and '2 days'"

Strengths:

- Good opening that draws readers in with mystery
- Clear setting of scene and introduction of main character

Weakness: Lack of detail → Your writing would be better if you showed where Jackie was walking and what made him stop to listen. The phrase "simply walking around" doesn't give readers a clear picture of the setting.

Exemplar: ***Jackie the golden retriever was padding along the dimly lit basement corridor of his home when unfamiliar voices caught his attention through the thin walls.***

#2 "Jackie ran onto the street, and amazed onlookers stared. Jackie had to lose the Agents. He had an idea. All he had to do was get into an alley."

Strengths:

- Good build-up of tension
- Shows quick thinking of the character

Weakness: Limited description → Your writing needs more details about how the onlookers reacted and what Jackie's clever plan was. The phrases "amazed onlookers stared" and "had an idea" tell us what happened but don't help us picture the scene.

Exemplar: ***Jackie burst onto the crowded street as people gasped and jumped back. His heart racing, he spotted a narrow alley between two buildings - the perfect place to shake off the agents' car.***

#3 "2 days later, the bomb fell, and Jackie smiled as he knew his owner was safe."

Strengths:

- Clear resolution
- Shows the bond between dog and owner

Weakness: Rushed ending → Your ending moves too quickly and leaves many questions unanswered. The phrase "the bomb fell" needs more details about what happened in China.

Exemplar: *Two days later, when news reached them about the devastating explosion in China, Jackie curled up beside his owner on the sofa, grateful that his warning had kept them safely at home.*

■ Your piece has an exciting plot about a brave dog saving his owner. The story would be better if you added more details about Jackie's feelings throughout his adventure. You could write about how scared he felt when he heard the agents coming, or how his heart was pounding as he ran. Also, you could tell us more about Jackie's owner - what is their name? What do they look like? What makes them special to Jackie? Additionally, you could make the chase scene longer by adding more obstacles Jackie has to overcome. Your ending could be longer too - maybe show us how Jackie and his owner felt when they heard about what happened in China.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

The Dog Who Knew Too Much: #1 ~~Jackie the golden retriever was simply walking around when he heard someone speaking. He put his ear to the wall the sound was coming from, and listened. He heard the words 'nuclear bomb', 'China' and '2 days'~~ [Jackie the golden retriever was trotting through his house when mysterious voices caught his attention. Pressing his ear against the wall, he made out three terrifying words: 'nuclear bomb', 'China' and '2 days'] His owner would be in China in 2 days! He barked, giving away that he knew what he knew. CIA agents came running, armed with guns. They shot at him, but he dodged and started running. He had to tell his owner what was going to happen. He ran, for the one he loved most depended on it. He moved, and just as the CIA agents disappeared, a car drove up, armed with one machine gun and two agents with assault rifles. Jackie ran like he had never run before, and the car disappeared, then a loud engine noise was heard. The car caught up, and the agents smiled.

#2 ~~Jackie ran onto the street, and amazed onlookers stared. Jackie had to lose the Agents. He had an idea. All he had to do was get into an alley.~~ [Jackie darted onto the busy street as pedestrians jumped aside in shock. He needed to escape the Agents, and suddenly he spotted his chance - a narrow alley between the buildings.] Jackie looked around. There. 300 metres ahead. Jackie ran, because if he didn't get to the alley in time, neither him nor his owner would make it. Jackie ran into the alley in the nick of time, and when the agents had passed, ~~eh~~ [he] trotted ~~of~~ [off], victoriously. The CIA wouldn't be able to tell who he was. He went to warn his owner, who didn't

go to China. #3 ~~2 days later, the bomb fell, and Jackie smiled as he knew his owner was safe.~~
[Two days later, when reports came in about the explosion in China, Jackie nestled close to his owner, knowing they were safe at home.]

03-

Section 1:

#1 "I long to see you again. I'm am just not complete without you. We are a set, a pair, and we don't work without one another." Strengths:

- Creates a strong emotional connection through repetition of longing
- Effectively establishes the relationship between the pair of socks

Weakness: Repetitive opening statements → Your opening lines repeat the same idea three times. The phrases "I long to see you", "not complete without you", and "don't work without one another" all express the same feeling, making the introduction less engaging.

Exemplar: ***I long to see you again, my other half. Together we made the perfect pair, bringing warmth and comfort to our wearer's feet.***

#2 "We once trekked over a mountain, sailed over a see, travelled under the harbour, and lost our ways." Strengths:

- Uses adventure imagery to build a shared history
- Creates movement through varied locations

Weakness: Underdeveloped adventure details → Your adventures lack specific details that could make them more memorable. The locations mentioned are too general and don't paint a clear picture of your shared experiences.

Exemplar: ***We once trekked over Mount Snowdon's rocky paths, sailed across the stormy English Channel, and ventured through the dark Thames Tunnel together.***

#3 "I have some many stories to share with you, some many despairing adventures that once would have been fun, with you." Strengths:

- Shows emotional depth through contrast of past and present
- Conveys genuine longing for companionship

Weakness: Unclear emotional progression → Your writing jumps between different emotions without showing how they connect. The shift from "fun" to "despairing" needs more detail to help readers understand the sock's feelings better.

Exemplar: ***Each new adventure feels hollow without you here. What should be exciting moments only remind me of the joy we once shared together.***

■ Your letter shows creativity in giving voice to an everyday object. The emotional journey of the lonely sock comes through clearly in your writing. To make your piece stronger, try adding more specific details about the adventures they shared. You could describe the texture of the mountain paths they walked on or the sounds of the harbour they travelled under. Also, focus on building a clearer timeline of their experiences together. When you mention their adventures, connect them to specific feelings or memories. Additionally, try to vary your sentence beginnings instead of starting many sentences with "I". You might start some sentences with action words or descriptions of places. Your writing would be even better if you showed how the sock's feelings change throughout the letter, from happy memories to sad present moments.

Score: 38/50

Section 2:

Dear lost Friend,

I long to see you again. ~~I am~~ [I am] just not complete without you. We are a set, a pair, and we don't work without one another. Your face is one I long to see. I long to be washed with you once more, or to join you wherever you are. I miss you, and being washed or worn isn't the same. I have enemies, so many enemies, because for me to be used, another sock must be temporarily separated from their pair. Come back to me, I beg, so that life is easier. I have been worn, torn, but I still am the same inside. I still long for you to cover the other foot.

We once trekked over a mountain, sailed over ~~a sea~~ [the sea], travelled under the harbour, and ~~lost our ways~~ [lost our way]. But now, I have lost you. Please, my only wish is that one day, soon, you come back, and live with me, together. I have ~~some~~ [so] many stories to share with you, ~~some~~ [so] many despairing adventures that once would have been fun, with you. And I am sure that you too have stories, adventure stories to share with me. So, I beg of you, come back, rejoin your despairing friend. I hate mourning you, so come back, please.

Best wishes,

Your Other Half

04-

Section 1:

#1: "I sit and stare at my name, carved on a gravestone, watching the funeral procession. But nobody notices me. It is like I am not there."

Strengths:

- Strong opening hook that draws readers in
- Creates mystery and intrigue through first-person perspective

Weakness: Limited sensory details → Your writing could paint a more vivid picture by including how you felt seeing your name on the gravestone. The sentences "But nobody notices me. It is like I am not there" could be deeper with emotional details.

Exemplar: *I sit frozen, my heart heavy as stone, staring at my name deeply carved on the cold gravestone while the funeral procession moves past me like shadows.*

#2: "My mum, who I talked to, didn't recognise me, but now she wept for me? It was all so... confusing."

Strengths:

- Shows emotional conflict effectively
- Uses questions to show inner thoughts

Weakness: Underdeveloped emotional depth → Your writing could explore more of the feelings about watching your mum cry. The phrase "It was all so... confusing" needs more details about why it was confusing.

Exemplar: *My mum, who smiled blankly at me this morning, now stood there sobbing uncontrollably by my grave, making my heart break into pieces.*

#3: "I didn't need food, water, or anything, really, as I soon learned, so I just looked out the window, pretended I was touching grass when I was gaming, and that is that."

Strengths:

- Includes interesting details about the afterlife
- Shows acceptance of the situation

Weakness: Rushed ending → Your ending feels quick and leaves many questions open. The phrase "and that is that" doesn't give readers a proper closing to your story.

Exemplar: *As days passed, I realised I no longer needed food or water - I was different now. I spent my days watching life go on through my window, finding peace in my new existence between two worlds.*

■ Your narrative has an interesting concept about someone watching their own funeral. However, you could make your story stronger by adding more feelings and thoughts throughout. When you describe your mum crying, tell us how that made you feel inside. Also, you could add more details about what it's like to be invisible to everyone. Additionally, try to end your story with a proper closing that wraps up your main ideas. Your story would be better if you showed how this experience changed you as a person.

Score: 37/50

Section 2:

A Perfectly Normal Funeral: I sit and stare at my name, carved on a gravestone, watching the funeral procession. But nobody notices me. It is like I am not there. #1 They see me, they see my hand when I wave, but never have one of them recognised [recognise] me. As far as I can tell, I look the same. I haven't changed, according to the photo, so why do none of the attendees recognise me? I decide to try something. ~~A courageous, death-defying venture.~~ [What I planned next was both courageous and death-defying.] I decide to watch my funeral go on.

~~#2 My mum, who I talked to, didn't recognise me, but now she wept for me? It was all so... confusing.~~ [My mum, who chatted with me just hours ago without recognition, now stood weeping by my grave - how could this be?] I just couldn't understand why they knew me and didn't know me. So, I decided to do something. I knew my past best friend is an amazing drawer, who drew ultra realistic drawings, so I let my funeral pass. ~~He~~ [When] it was over, I asked him to draw me, but I looked nothing like I did in the mirror. I was ~~whole~~ [a whole] new person to everyone else, but not me. People saw me as someone else? It didn't make sense, but then again, ~~we~~ [me] coming back to life in time for my funeral didn't either.

#3 I decided that I probably should just relax and live life, so I did. I didn't need food, water, or anything, really, as I soon learned, so I just looked out the window, pretended I was touching grass when I was gaming, and that is that.

05-

Section 1:

#1: "I was once a small banana, and then I grew up and bullied younger Bananas. Now, bullying is a massive problem, and it's all because of me." Strengths:

- Shows self-reflection and acknowledgment of past mistakes
- Creates a clear cause-and-effect relationship

Weakness: Limited emotional depth → Your writing could dig deeper into the feelings and specific experiences of being both a bully and feeling remorse. The statement "it's all because of me" needs more build-up to feel meaningful.

Exemplar: ***I began as a tiny banana, innocent and pure. But as I grew, I chose to hurt younger bananas, mocking and pushing them around. Looking back, I see how my actions sparked a chain of pain - those I bullied went on to bully others, creating a never-ending cycle of hurt that haunts me daily.***

#2: "I miss them so much, especially since it was only for something as stupid as seeing another tree." Strengths:

- Conveys genuine regret
- Shows personal growth through hindsight

Weakness: Underdeveloped context → Your writing jumps too quickly between ideas without giving readers enough details about why seeing another tree was important enough to leave home.

Exemplar: ***The other tree seemed so exciting then - tall and mysterious, promising adventure. Now I understand that leaving my loving parents for such a simple thing was foolish. Their tree had given me everything I needed to grow strong.***

#3: "June, my wife, I love watching you snuggle with Jackson, I love hugging you, I love sitting down at enjoying time together." Strengths:

- Shows warm family relationships
- Includes specific loving moments

Weakness: Repetitive structure → Your writing uses "I love" three times in quick succession, making it sound less heartfelt.

Exemplar: ***My dear June, watching you cuddle with Jackson fills my heart with joy. Each moment we share, whether it's a warm embrace or simply sitting together, makes life beautiful.***

■ Your piece has a creative concept of telling a banana's life story, which makes it unique and interesting. You could make your writing stronger by adding more details about important moments in the banana's life. For example, when you talk about bullying, you could share a specific memory that shows why the banana started being mean to others. Also, you could write more about how the banana met June and fell in love, or special moments watching Jackson grow up. Your ending is quite sudden - try building up to it more slowly to make it more touching. You could describe the banana's last thoughts or feelings as it realises what's happening. Adding these details will help readers feel more connected to your story.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 I was once a small banana, and then I grew up and bullied younger Bananas. Now, bullying is a massive problem, and it's all because of me. #1

#2 Many innocent souls were turned into cruel, evil souls that want to bully others for revenge for the bullying they suffered, and it all goes back to me. ~~I also regret leaving my mum and dad.~~ [More than anything, I regret leaving my mum and dad.] I miss them so much, especially since it was only for something as stupid as seeing another tree. #2

I'm sorry that I ran away when you gave me shelter, food, water. ~~When you taught me how to see, walk and talk.~~ [You taught me everything - how to see, walk, and talk.] It was so unfair of me to leave you. I hope that your life turned out better than mine.

Jackson, my son, I hope that you always remember what I taught you, stay safe, and live a long happy life. ~~I also hope you find some banana~~ [I also hope you find some banana] you love who loves you ~~to~~ [too]. It has been a great pleasure to watch you grow up, and I am sorry for every time I yelled at you.

#3 June, my wife, I love watching you snuggle with Jackson, I love hugging you, I love sitting down at[and] enjoying time together. It has been so fun to watch you help Jackson become a banana from a seed. It has been a pleasure to be your husband. #3

I was peeled, and eaten.

Section 1:

#1: "Now announcing, the human sized hamster wheel, designed to bring you fun for the rest of your life. once you enter, you will never want to get out, for it will be so fun to run and roll like you're a kid again, or if you are a kid."

Strengths:

- Creates intrigue through the announcement format
- Uses playful language that appeals to both children and adults

Weakness: Missing atmosphere → The announcement lacks details about what makes this wheel special. The description is too simple and misses chances to paint a picture for readers. Words like "fun" are used twice without showing what makes it fun.

Exemplar: ***"Ladies and gentlemen, behold the magnificent human-sized hamster wheel! Its gleaming metal surface and smooth curves promise endless adventure. Step inside to spin, twirl, and soar through the air like never before!"***

#2: "When I finally got on my feet, I was battered and bruised, so my ratings of this wheel were already terrible. I decided to keep trying, and so I started to run."

Strengths:

- Shows persistence despite difficulties
- Reveals character's thoughts through ratings

Weakness: Rushed development → You jump from being hurt to running without showing your feelings or why you changed your mind. The shift feels too quick.

Exemplar: ***"Though my arms and legs ached from the falls, something about the wheel's gentle curve beckoned me forward. Maybe one more try, I thought, pushing myself up slowly."***

#3: "The bar reached the top, and a portal opened. I tried holding onto the side, but it kept moving and I was bound to have to let go. I fingers were slick from sweat, and eventually I slipped. The portal ate me."

Strengths:

- Creates tension in the final moments
- Uses physical details like sweaty fingers

Weakness: Unclear ending → The portal appears suddenly without any hints earlier in the story. We don't know what the bar means or why reaching the top opens a portal.

Exemplar: *"As the progress bar finally filled with a bright green glow, the air shimmered and tore open. A swirling violet portal materialized before me, its edges crackling with energy."*

■ Your piece has an interesting concept of a magical hamster wheel, but needs more development to reach its full potential. You could add more details about how the wheel looks and feels when your character first sees it. The middle part where you run could show more of your thoughts and feelings during the experience. Your ending is surprising but comes too quickly - try building up to it by dropping small hints about the portal earlier in the story. Also, you could describe the other things happening in the wheel while you run, like sounds or movements. Adding these details will help readers feel like they're right there with you in the story. You might want to work on the first paragraph to make the wheel sound more special and magical from the start.

Score: 37/50

Section 2: #1 ~~Now announcing, the human sized hamster wheel, designed to bring you fun for the rest of your life. once you enter,~~ [Ladies and gentlemen! Behold the human-sized hamster wheel, promising endless joy throughout your life. Once you enter,] you will never want to get out, for it will be so fun to run and roll like you're a kid again, or if you are a kid.

#2 The door was open, like[a] portal to another world, one that claimed to be fun and joy only. There was ~~noting~~ [nothing] to it. I stepped in, and ~~got~~ spun around. When I finally got on my feet, I was battered and bruised, so my ratings of this wheel were already terrible. ~~I decided to keep trying, and so I started to run.~~ [Despite my doubts, something urged me to give it another chance, so I began to run.]

#3 I ran and ran and ran. Eventually I got tired, but there was a bar that went up when I sweated, and I wanted to get ~~it~~ to the top. I kept running, and the bar inched higher, closer to the top. Last spring. Another ten seconds and I would be good. This really was quite fun. So close. And done. The bar reached the top, and a portal opened. I tried holding onto the side, but it kept moving and I was bound to have to let go. ~~I fingers~~ [My fingers] were slick from sweat, and eventually I slipped. The portal ate me.

07-

Section 1:

#1: "I was playing soccer with my friends when it happened. I kicked the ball, hoping that it would get to my teammate, and I heard the sound of it hitting wood. My friend had a wooden leg, so I was overjoyed."

Strengths:

- Creates immediate engagement through action
- Shows character emotion effectively through "overjoyed"

Weakness: Limited sensory detail → Your writing could include more details about the soccer game setting. The phrase "playing soccer" is quite basic and doesn't help readers picture the scene clearly.

Exemplar: ***I was playing an intense game of football on the sun-dried grass with my friends during lunch break when it happened.***

#2: "The door had just appeared. My friends had been watching the ball as I passed it. they would have known what happened, but they just said it had... appeared... out of nowhere."

Strengths:

- Builds mystery through repetition of "appeared"
- Shows multiple perspectives through friends' observations

Weakness: Unclear sequence → Your writing jumps between different moments without smooth connections. The phrases "had been watching" and "would have known" make the timing confusing.

Exemplar: ***As my friends watched the ball soar through the air, a mysterious door suddenly materialised before our eyes.***

#3: "The whole world was a multitude of colours, and everywhere we looked, there wasn't a single shade of grey or white or black. We were... undoubtedly lost."

Strengths:

- Vivid description of the new world
- Strong ending that creates suspense

Weakness: Rushed description → Your writing speeds through the description of this new world. The phrase "multitude of colours" doesn't tell readers exactly what makes this place special.

Exemplar: *We found ourselves in a world painted with swirling purples, shimmering blues and glowing oranges that danced across the strange landscape.*

■ Your piece has a fascinating magical element that draws readers in. The mysterious door and colourful world create an exciting adventure story. You can make your writing even better by adding more details about how things look, sound and feel. Try describing the soccer game more clearly at the start. Also, when writing about the door appearing, tell readers exactly what happened step by step. Additionally, spend more time describing the new world they enter - what specific things do they see there? What makes it different from our world? Remember to use clear connections between events to help readers follow the story easily. Focus on showing readers the story through careful descriptions rather than just telling them what happened.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

The Door To Nowhere:

~~I was playing soccer~~ [I was playing football] with my friends when it happened. I kicked the ball, hoping that it would get to my teammate, and I heard the sound of it hitting wood. My friend had a wooden leg, so I was overjoyed. #1 I opened my eyes, and my immense grin disappeared. It hadn't hit my friends' wood leg. It had hit... a door. I walked up to the door, and stared. It had intricate patterns, with birds and eggs and even some trees carved on it. We all stared, confused.

~~#2 The door had just appeared. My friends had been watching the ball as I passed it. they would have known what happened,~~ [The door appeared out of nowhere as my friends watched the ball sail through the air. None of them could explain what happened,] but they just said it had... appeared... out of nowhere. I checked behind the door. Nothing. It shouldn't lead anywhere. Yet I had a desire to open it. I touched the handle, which was cold. I twisted it, and opened the door. ~~The strange portal was there, and out even though we tried to stop, our legs pulled us in.~~ [A strange portal appeared, and despite our resistance, an invisible force pulled us through.] then the door disappeared, and the only thing on the field was our ball.

We whirled around, and for some reason, ~~he~~ [we] didn't feel dizzy when we ~~eam~~ [came] out the other side. We just fell for 2 ~~second~~ [seconds] and then hit some strange cotton. #3 The whole

world was a multitude of colours, and everywhere we looked, there wasn't a single shade of grey or white or black. We were... undoubtedly lost.

08-

Section 1:

#1: "I was walking across the road. Jaywalking, to be truthful, when I heard it. A sound. A call. It seemed to come from a traffic light, but this one was different."

Strengths:

- Strong opening that creates curiosity using short sentences
- Good use of first-person perspective that draws readers in

Weakness: Missing sensory details → Your opening could be fuller with details about how the sound felt or what made it stand out. The phrase "when I heard it" leaves readers wanting more details about this important moment.

Exemplar: *I was walking across the road, jaywalking if I'm honest, when an odd whispering sound caught my attention - unlike anything I'd heard before. It echoed from the traffic light ahead, but something about this one seemed different.*

#2: "The kaleidoscope of a traffic light spoke, and I could tell this one was the one calling to me. Each word aligned with a glow around its' edges, and this time, it was more distinct."

Strengths:

- Creative use of "kaleidoscope" to describe the light
- Good build-up of tension through description

Weakness: Unclear sequence → Your description jumps between the light speaking and glowing without showing how these connect. The phrase "this time" suggests previous events we haven't seen.

Exemplar: *The traffic light pulsed with swirling colours like a kaleidoscope, its words glowing brighter with each syllable. The edges shimmered with an eerie light as it called to me.*

#3: "My arm, despite my attempt to stop it, touched the traffic light, and suddenly I was sucked in."

Strengths:

- Effective use of suspense
- Strong ending that leaves readers wanting more

Weakness: Quick ending → Your ending happens too fast. The phrase "suddenly I was sucked in" doesn't give readers enough time to feel the fear or tension.

Exemplar: *Though I fought against it with all my strength, my trembling arm reached out towards the traffic light. The moment my fingers brushed its cold surface, I felt myself being pulled inward, helplessly drawn into its glowing depths.*

■ Your piece shows great imagination in creating a spooky atmosphere. You could make it even better by adding more details about how the main character feels throughout the story. Try showing their fear through physical reactions like shaking hands or a racing heart. Also, you could build up the tension more slowly before the ending. You might want to describe the traffic light's appearance more clearly at the start. Additionally, you could add some background sounds or weather details to make the scene feel more real. Focus on making each moment last longer by including more of what the character sees, hears, and feels.

Score: 38/50

Section 2:

#1 I was walking across the road. Jaywalking, to be truthful, when I heard it. A sound. A call. It seemed to come from a traffic light, but this one was different.

#2 The kaleidoscope of a traffic light spoke, and I could tell this one was the one calling to me. Each word aligned with a glow around ~~its~~ [its] edges, and this time, it was more distinct.

"Come to me. Come to me and be my friend." The urge was irresistible. I tried to stop my moving legs, but nothing happened. I kept walking forward, and ~~suddenly controlling my body was something I couldn't do~~ [I lost all control of my body]. I attempted to stop moving, but nothing happened. I walked forward. My end came closer. I heard the traffic light, and every ounce of my consciousness burned with a hatred for it.

"Tick Tock. Tick Tock." It spoke. ~~The Traffic light seemed to grin an evil grin~~ [The traffic light seemed to flash a sinister smile], and I tried to regain control of my body. ~~I didn't work~~ [It didn't work]. I came closer.

#3 My arm, despite my attempt to stop it, touched the traffic light, and suddenly I was sucked in.

09-

Section 1:

#1 "Please mum, I promise I won't get scared. Just tell me a story about humans." "Fine" my mum said, but no getting out from under the bed, ok?"

Strengths:

- Creates an immediate connection through dialogue
- Effectively sets up the role reversal concept

Weakness: Dialogue spacing and punctuation → The quotation marks are inconsistently placed and sentences run together. The line "Fine my mum said" needs proper punctuation.

Exemplar: ***"Please, Mum, I promise I won't get scared. Just tell me a story about humans." "Fine," my mum said. "But no getting out from under the bed, okay?"***

#2 "Long ago, dinosaurs ruled the world. Then the asteroid hit. Monster then came."

Strengths:

- Quick, punchy sentences create impact
- Links monsters to Earth's history

Weakness: Timeline flow → The sentences jump between events too quickly. "Monster then came" feels sudden and doesn't link well with previous sentences.

Exemplar: ***"Long ago, dinosaurs ruled the world. After the asteroid hit and the dust settled, we monsters emerged from the shadows."***

#3 "The screams literally disintegrated any monster nearby. We were driven into hiding; I am ashamed to say."

Strengths:

- Introduces unique monster weakness
- Shows emotional depth through shame

Weakness: Detail development → The concept of screams destroying monsters needs more detail to help readers picture it. The semicolon use is wrong.

Exemplar: ***"The screams were so powerful they turned any monster nearby to dust. We had no choice but to hide, which fills me with shame to this day."***

■ Your piece has a clever twist on traditional monster stories by making humans the scary ones. You could make the story stronger by adding more feelings and details about the monster family. Try showing how the child monster feels when hearing about humans through body language or thoughts. Also, you could describe the hiding spots under the beds more clearly to help readers picture the scene. Adding small details about what the monsters look like would make the story feel more real. You might want to expand the ending to show more of the parent-child relationship. The part where they say goodnight could include some monster-specific ways of showing love.

Score: 37/50

Section 2:

"Please ~~mum~~ [Mum], I promise I won't get scared. Just tell me a story about humans." ~~"Fine" my mum said, but no getting out from under the bed, ok?"~~ ["Fine," my Mum said. "But no getting out from under the bed, okay?"] "Yes! No problem. I can do that. ~~so~~ [So] can you tell me a story now?" ~~"If you wish" mum sighed.~~ ["If you wish," Mum sighed.] #2 ~~"Long ago, dinosaurs ruled the world. Then the asteroid hit. Monster then came."~~ ["Long ago, dinosaurs ruled the world. After the asteroid hit and the dust settled, we monsters emerged from the shadows."] We lived and thrived for millennia, scaring those who tried us. But then the monkeys, our greatest competitor, evolved, turning into humans. When babies saw us, they screamed and fled.

#3 ~~The screams literally disintegrated any monster nearby. We were driven into hiding; I am ashamed to say.~~ [The screams were so powerful they turned any monster nearby to dust. We had no choice but to hide, which fills me with shame to this day.] Then, not too long ago, maybe a few centuries, everything changed. Humans invented earmuffs. They invented our way to live. By wearing earmuffs, we looked the same, because it disappeared in our fur, but we couldn't hear screams from humans. We scared them, so they started destroying forests to build fences, so on. The fences had spikes, and we would die if we touched them. So we were driven into hiding, again, but this time, in the humans' home. And that, my beloved child, is a quick recap of our history, and your bedtime story. Now hide and sleep. You don't want to be seen." "Ok ~~mum~~ [Mum]. Goodnight, I love you." ~~"Me too, little one" Mum smiled, and then went to hide under the parents' bed.~~ ["Me too, little one," Mum smiled, then went to hide under the parents' bed.] I drifted into sleep, the story about humans terrifying me.

10-

Section 1:

#1: "I spent spare time waiting, but they never appeared. I was sad. The borrowed book was one of my favourites." Strengths:

- Shows clear emotional connection to books
- Creates suspense through waiting

Weakness: Simple sentence structure → The short sentences make the writing feel choppy. "I was sad" lacks depth and could be expanded to show more feeling.

Exemplar: ***I waited for hours, my heart growing heavier as time passed, knowing my cherished book might never return.***

#2: "Jake Roberts. Who is Jake Roberts. I was told the last occupier was Destiny Jackson." Strengths:

- Builds mystery effectively
- Creates tension through confusion

Weakness: Fragmented sentences → The sentences are broken up too much. "Who is Jake Roberts" needs a question mark and could be joined with surrounding ideas.

Exemplar: ***"Jake Roberts?" I wondered aloud, puzzled by this name when I clearly remembered Destiny Jackson living here.***

#3: "All the books claimed to have done this to people were immediately removed by me personally. I disposed of them, hopefully ending their tyranny over this library." Strengths:

- Strong ending that reveals protagonist's role
- Creates an eerie atmosphere

Weakness: Passive voice → Using "were removed by me" makes the action less direct. The ending could be stronger with active voice.

Exemplar: ***I personally removed every book that had made people vanish, determined to end their dark power over my library.***

■ Your piece has a fascinating premise about mysterious disappearances in a library. You could make the story stronger by adding more details about how the main character feels throughout these strange events. Also, you could describe the library setting more to help readers picture where everything happens. Additionally, try to show the main character's growing worry as they

discover more odd things. You might want to add what the special book looked like or why it was the narrator's favourite. Moreover, you could write more about what happened to other people who borrowed similar books before. Your ending gives readers a good surprise, but you could make it even better by telling us if the narrator feels guilty about not stopping these books sooner.

Score: 38/50

Section 2:

#1 I sat at the desk. Waiting. One of my customers told me they would return their book today, and said at 10:00. It was 4:00. ~~I spent spare time waiting, but they never appeared. I was sad. The borrowed book was one of my favourites.~~ [I spent hours waiting anxiously, but they never appeared, leaving me devastated since the borrowed book was one of my most treasured possessions.] I went to the shelf with it, and it was back! I didn't understand.

#2 I went to call the customer, but was told ~~that~~ [that] the phone number didn't exist. I went to their address, but no one was home. They might have been out for a walk, but this was strange. I waited at the door, on my phone. They would come back, surely. Someone did. Not the customer. "Who are you? ~~Jake Roberts should live here.~~" I said, cautiously. [Jake Roberts should live here," I said cautiously.] ~~Jake Roberts. Who is Jake Roberts. I was told the last occupier was Destiny Jackson.~~ [Jake Roberts? Who was Jake Roberts? I had been told the last occupier was Destiny Jackson.]

#3 This confused me. Destiny Jackson owned the place before Jake. She sold it to him. Unless... my customers were disappearing from reality. This was said to have happened before, but certain books... like the book he borrowed. ~~All the books claimed to have done this to people were immediately removed by me personally. I disposed of them, hopefully ending their tyranny over this library.~~ [I personally removed all the books that had reportedly made people vanish, disposing of them in hopes of ending their sinister control over my library.]

11-

Section 1:

#1: "Yawn, and I woke up. I didn't know why I couldn't stop speaking. I decided I would try an experiment. I jumped. Then I rolled. I couldn't stop narrating!"

Strengths:

- Good use of short sentences to create a sense of urgency
- Effective opening that draws readers in

Weakness: Limited Scene Setting → Your opening lacks sensory details about the bedroom environment and the character's initial feelings upon discovering their condition. Phrases like "I woke up" and "I jumped" could benefit from more descriptive elements to help readers picture the scene.

Exemplar: ***I stretched and yawned as morning light filtered through my curtains. To my horror, I heard my own voice describing every movement I made.***

#2: "I went downstairs, where I grabbed a bowl of cereal, poured some milk in, and attempted to eat. Because of the narrating, it was tricky, but I managed to do it"

Strengths:

- Clear sequence of events
- Shows the practical challenges of the condition

Weakness: Underdeveloped Action → The breakfast scene moves too quickly without showing the funny or difficult moments. Phrases like "attempted to eat" and "it was tricky" need more details about why eating was hard while narrating.

Exemplar: ***As I poured milk into my cereal, my voice wouldn't stop: "The white liquid splashed over the golden flakes, making it nearly impossible to take a proper bite without commenting on every spoonful."***

#3: "But when I had a meeting, I struggled, because I narrated everything that I saw and heard. It really was quite tedious to have to live with."

Strengths:

- Shows how the problem affects daily life
- Creates relatability through common situations

Weakness: Shallow Problem Development → Your writing doesn't fully show the meeting challenge. Words like "struggled" and "tedious" tell rather than show the difficulty of the situation.

Exemplar: *During the meeting, I couldn't help myself: "Janet is showing her sales charts, while Bob looks sleepy in the corner." My colleagues stared at me in confusion as I narrated their every move.*

■ Your story has a clever idea about someone stuck narrating their life like David Attenborough. You could make it funnier by adding more details about how the narration sounds. Try writing longer descriptions of the main character's feelings when they realise they can't stop talking. You could add more scenes showing how the narration gets them into trouble. Also, think about adding conversations with other people who hear the narration. Show how different people react to hearing someone describe everything they do. Make the ending stronger by showing why the tape might not solve the problem. Your writing would be more fun to read if you added these details.

Score: 37/50

Section 2:

The Man Who Couldn't Stop Narrating (David Attenborough):

#1 ~~Yawn, and I woke up.~~ [I woke up with a yawn.] I didn't know why I couldn't stop speaking. I decided I would try an experiment. I jumped. Then I rolled. I couldn't stop narrating! It really was very annoying.

I walked out of my bedroom, sighed and decided that I would just have to live with this weird narrating.

#2 I went downstairs, where I grabbed a bowl of cereal, poured some milk in, and attempted to eat. ~~Because of the narrating, it was tricky, but I managed to do it~~ [Though my constant narration made each bite a challenge, I finally finished my breakfast.] I sat down to watch TV, as TV often helped clear my mind. My eyes saw green and red and a kaleidoscope of colours, and within 1 minute I had shut the TV off and was trying to sleep. But I rolled over, and over, and then I covered my ears, trying to stop narrating, but it didn't work.

With a sigh, I went to do work. #3 ~~But when I had a meeting, I struggled, because I narrated everything that I saw and heard.~~ [During the meeting, I couldn't control myself as I narrated

every gesture, every sound, and every movement I witnessed.] It really was quite tedious to have to live with. I decided to try something. I would tape my mouth and only open it when I was eating or drinking. I thought I was the only solution, so that ~~what~~ [what's] I did. I took some tape and put it on my mou-

12-

Section 1:

#1: "The Silent Rivalry: Mime Number 1 stared Mime Number 2 in the face. Their rivalry stretched back decades, and Mime Number 1 despised Mime Number 2 because Mime Number 2 had come onto the same street as him a beginner."

Strengths:

- Strong opening that sets up the conflict between characters
- Creates clear tension through description of their long-standing rivalry

Weakness: Unclear character distinction → Your characters lack distinct personalities and details. Using just numbers makes it hard for readers to connect with them emotionally.

Exemplar: ***The Silent Rivalry: Marcel, the veteran street mime, stared at young Pierre's painted face. Their rivalry stretched back decades, since Pierre first appeared on his beloved corner as a fresh-faced beginner.***

#2: "Evil eyes burned with fury and long-lost voices longed to express their hatred. They circled each other, while keeping up the acts they had practised and knew by heart."

Strengths:

- Good use of imagery with "evil eyes burned"
- Shows the depth of their conflict while maintaining their mime personas

Weakness: Limited emotional depth → Your description focuses only on anger without showing other feelings. The phrase "evil eyes burned with fury" could be deeper by showing their inner thoughts.

Exemplar: ***Behind their painted smiles, both mimes' eyes reflected years of bitter rivalry and wounded pride. As they circled each other, their perfectly practised routines masked deeper hurts.***

#3: "The acts were good, but nobody wanted to see an argument. And finally, the battle was ended, and neither won. Both lost."

Strengths:

- Meaningful ending showing consequences
- Good message about pointless rivalry

Weakness: Rushed ending → Your ending moves too quickly from conflict to resolution. The phrase "the battle was ended" needs more details about how they felt after speaking.

Exemplar: *Though their acts had always drawn crowds, their angry voices scattered their audience. In breaking their silence, both mimes had destroyed the magic they had created. They had lost not just their rivalry, but their art.*

■ Your piece has an interesting concept about rivalry between street performers. You can make your story stronger by giving your mimes names and personalities. Also, try adding more details about why they feel such strong hatred. Additionally, you could describe their mime acts to help readers picture the scene better. Your ending could be longer to show how the mimes feel about losing their silent battle. Try writing a new paragraph about what happens after they speak. You could also add some dialogue when they finally break their silence.

Score: 36/50

Section 2:

The Silent Rivalry: ~~Mime Number 1~~ [Marcel] stared ~~Mime Number 2~~ [Pierre] in the face. ~~There~~ [Their] rivalry stretched back decades, and ~~Mime Number 1~~ [Marcel] ~~despised of~~ [despised] ~~Mime Number 2~~ [Pierre] because ~~Mime Number 2~~ [Pierre] had come onto the same street as him a [as a] beginner. Now, their silent hatred burned in their eyes, and they circled each other, each believing that every step they took was a step to the other leaving them alone, but for decades they had thought this, and nothing had happened.

#1 Evil eyes burned with fury and long-lost voices longed to express their hatred. #2 They circled each other, while keeping up the acts they had practised and knew by heart. Every day, one tried to out mime the other, setting traps, but they never worked. Giving up hope, they had stopped, but today both had set up a trap, both ready to watch as they out[-] mimed the other. ~~Mime Number 1~~ [Marcel] and ~~Mime Number 2~~ [Pierre] both activated each other's traps at the same time, and they both ripped and fell. Instinctively, they put their hands out, and they hit the ground. After decades of not having a voice, they found it. ~~Insults~~ [Insults] were thrown at ~~Mime Number 1~~ [Marcel] and ~~Mime Number 2~~ [Pierre]. For once, their voices enjoyed the liberty of speaking, and onlookers stepped away. #3 The acts were good, but nobody wanted to see an argument. And finally, the battle was ended, and neither won. Both lost.