

## - WRITING PIECE 1 -

Section 1:

#1 "she sat chipping away at the map she had carved on a granite rock while the summer breeze ruffled and blew her hair. She stared at her rock carving of an underground cave wondering if the storms below still spoke to those who dared to listen."

Strengths:

- Your imagery creates a mysterious atmosphere
- Your use of sensory details with the summer breeze adds depth

Weakness: Unclear timeline → Your writing jumps between present and past events without smooth transitions. The shift between Sarah carving the map and her wondering about the storms feels disconnected.

Exemplar: *As Sarah chiselled the map deeper into the granite, memories of the underground storms flooded back, whispering to her just as they had five years ago.*

#2 "Sarah was beyond thrilled to get into this cave but as soon as she stepped in she realized what the spikes were for. They moved inwards closing the cave's mouth trapping her inside spikes she hadn't seen before fell from the ceiling."

Strengths:

- Your build-up of tension is effective
- Your revelation of danger creates excitement

Weakness: Rushed pacing → Your writing speeds through important moments too quickly. The transformation from excitement to danger needs more development to help readers feel Sarah's emotions.

Exemplar: *Sarah's excitement turned to horror as she watched the massive spikes slide inward with an ancient grinding sound, sealing her fate within the cave's darkness.*

#3 "It was terrifying but she summoned the last of her energy and courage to walk near the cyclone. and when she put her hand out to touch the cyclone. It threw her into the air and out of the nightmare of a cave she was in."

Strengths:

- Your climax shows Sarah's bravery
- Your ending provides closure to the adventure

Weakness: Limited emotional depth → Your writing doesn't fully show Sarah's inner thoughts during this crucial moment. We need to feel her fear and determination more deeply.

Exemplar: *Despite her trembling hands and racing heart, Sarah reached towards the swirling cyclone, knowing it might be her only escape from this ancient trap.*

■ Your story has an intriguing premise about a young archaeologist's adventure, but needs more emotional development. The cave's description and Sarah's physical journey are well-detailed, but we don't get enough of her thoughts and feelings throughout the experience. You could make the story stronger by showing how this event changed her. The timeline needs clearer organisation to help readers follow the story better. Adding more dialogue or inner thoughts would help readers connect with Sarah better. Your ending feels a bit rushed and could use more detail about how this experience affected her.

Actionable task: Rewrite the scene where Sarah touches the cyclone, focusing on her inner thoughts and emotions during this pivotal moment.

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**Score: 40/50**

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Section 2:

It was midnight in the middle of summer and Sarah sat on the dry, slightly gold ~~colored~~ [coloured] lawn with an oxidizing chisel fit with a decomposing handle. #1 ~~she sat chipping away at the map she had carved on a granite rock while the summer breeze ruffled and blew her hair. She stared at her rock carving of an underground cave wondering if the storms below still spoke to those who dared to listen.~~ [As she chiselled away at the map carved into the granite rock, the summer breeze tousled her hair while she pondered if the mysterious storms below still whispered their secrets to brave listeners.] It was 5 years ago when Sarah was still only 12 working as an assistant archaeologist. She had chocolate brown, lustrous hair, ~~green eyes that were still young and untainted full of joy.~~ [green eyes that sparkled with youthful joy.] ~~red freckles adorned her cheeks like red stars in the night sky.~~ [Red freckles dotted her cheeks like stars scattered across the night sky.] She wore a pink slightly stained t-shirt along with a stormy grey shirt that looked older than her. ~~her~~ [Her] archaeologist had finally let her go on a solo exploration into the south cave in Egypt's sand dune. Upon arriving she was awestruck by how large and manmade the cave

looked. It spanned wider than a crater with gargantuan spikes lining the mouth in perfect symmetry and two identical crevices on top of the cave mouth. #2 ~~Sarah was beyond thrilled to get into this cave but as soon as she stepped in she realized what the spikes were for. They moved inwards closing the cave's mouth trapping her inside spikes she hadn't seen before fell from the ceiling.~~ [Sarah's initial thrill quickly turned to terror as she stepped inside and watched the massive spikes slide inward, sealing the cave's entrance. Hidden spikes began plummeting from the ceiling.] ~~she dodged spike after spike screaming until her voice escaped her body and her limbs ached.~~ [She dodged spike after spike, screaming until her voice grew hoarse and her limbs burned with exhaustion.] further down down the cave she ventured seeking shelter but what she found was a grey cyclone swirling furiously whispering inaudible things. #3 ~~It was terrifying but she summoned the last of her energy and courage to walk near the cyclone. and when she put her hand out to touch the cyclone. It threw her into the air and out of the nightmare of a cave she was in.~~ [Though terrified, she gathered her remaining strength and courage to approach the cyclone. When she extended her trembling hand towards the swirling mass, it suddenly hurled her skyward, launching her from the nightmarish cave.]

## - WRITING PIECE 2 -

Section 1:

#1: "How my family changed the way I tackle challenges..." Strengths:

- Clear personal growth narrative showing development
- Good use of specific example with test-taking scenario

Weakness: Limited reflection on the mindset shift → While you mention changing approaches, you could delve deeper into how this new perspective impacted other areas of your life beyond test-taking. The phrase "come and face that challenge when i was better prepared" needs more detail about what "better prepared" means.

***I learnt to approach challenges strategically by first assessing whether I needed more preparation or a different perspective, which helped me develop better problem-solving skills across various situations.***

#2: "The thing I cherish most in my family..." Strengths:

- Strong personal values demonstrated
- Thoughtful reflection on human nature regarding honesty

Weakness: Underdeveloped reasoning → Your discussion about honesty would benefit from a specific example showing how your parents' emphasis on truthfulness shaped your character. The statement "No human is always completely honest" needs more connection to your personal growth.

***My parents' commitment to honesty has shaped my character profoundly - for instance, when I once told the truth about breaking a vase, they praised my honesty above all else, teaching me the lasting value of integrity.***

#3: "The person I look up to the most..." Strengths:

- Genuine emotional connection shown
- Clear admiration with specific qualities listed

Weakness: Surface-level description → Your description of your mother focuses on general qualities like "kind and caring soul" without showing specific actions or moments that demonstrate these traits. The phrase "always encourages me" needs concrete examples.

***My mother demonstrated her exceptional character when she spent hours helping me practice for the school play despite her busy schedule, showing me how true care means taking action to support others' dreams.***

■ Your responses would benefit from more detailed examples that show rather than tell these important family dynamics. Consider expanding each answer by including specific situations that demonstrate how these family influences shaped your character and decisions. Add more depth by exploring the long-term impact of these family values on your goals and relationships.

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**Score: 40**

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Section 2:

#1 ~~How my family changed the way I tackle challenges is when~~ [My family changed how I tackle challenges. Previously,] I used to face a challenge I would keep on trying the same idea with the same mindset but this wasn't really effective as I would waste time and productivity on not even overcoming that challenge. ~~However my~~ [However, my] family taught me that instead of trying the same things that wouldn't work ~~I would~~ [to] come and face that challenge when i [I] was better prepared or if I couldn't I would see it from a different perspective and try it a different way. An example is when I encountered a hard problem in a test ~~I used to~~ [where I would] use all my time on one question and get bad or low scores. Then my parents taught me that with all challenges in life maybe you're not ready to face it or need to move on and from then on I did start seeing a huge improvement.

#2 The thing I cherish most in my family is their devotion to honesty. My parents are constantly reminding me to always be truthful and if I do lie about doing something ~~I get~~ [I would get] in even bigger trouble than if I would tell the truth. I respect this and always look up to them for this as it is important to always be honest because we want a world where we can trust each other. No human is always completely honest, almost everyone I know has lied for a good reason or bad. But honesty is really important if it doesn't hurt anyone and most people do prefer the truth.

#3 The person I look up to the most is my mother [,] ~~As she~~ [as she] is a kind and caring soul always looking out for me and loving everyone in our family. Not only is she kind and loving but she always encourages me to do the things I like no matter what they are and she will always be there for me. My mother is the one I look up to as I would like to be like her when I grow up[,] someone who always cares and encourages others.