TERM 1 2025 | WEEK 1 - Year 5 Scholarship Essentials

Section 1:

#1: "I picked up the box and brought it to the floor, what was in here? The box seemed to be pulling my hands to itself, urging me to open it. I slowly lifted the cardboard flap ane peered in, photographs of people filled the whole box"

Strengths:

- Creates suspense through descriptive sensory details
- Good use of first-person perspective to draw readers in

Weakness: Limited emotional connection \rightarrow Your writing could better show how you felt when discovering the box. The phrase "what was in here?" feels distant. The moment lacks depth about your feelings.

Exemplar: My hands trembled as I lifted the mysterious box from the shelf, my heart racing as I wondered what secrets it held within.

#2: "I looked at the photo and within a second the memories of everything hit me like a stampede of rhinos. I looked at the picture carefully as tears trickled quietly down my cheeks, grandpa."

Strengths:

- Powerful simile with "stampede of rhinos"
- Shows emotional impact through physical reaction

Weakness: Rushed emotional revelation \rightarrow Your writing jumps too quickly to crying without showing what specific memories came back. The phrase "memories of everything" is too broad.

Exemplar: As I gazed at the photo, memories flooded back - grandpa teaching me chess, his warm laugh during our Sunday dinners, the way he always knew exactly what to say when I was sad.

#3: "Dear Issac, thank you for how well you helped me and treated me for my whole life now go help someone else!"

Strengths:

- Introduces meaningful message from grandpa
- Shows relationship depth through gratitude

Weakness: Underdeveloped message impact \rightarrow Your writing could better show how this message affects you. The note's discovery needs more weight given its importance.

Exemplar: My hands shook as I read grandpa's words again and again, each time understanding more deeply how he wanted me to carry on his legacy of kindness.

■ Your piece has a lovely foundation of emotion and mystery. The discovery of the box and photos builds interest well. To make your writing stronger, add more details about your feelings at each discovery. Show how finding each item makes you feel inside. When you mention memories, tell us specific ones that help readers understand why grandpa was special. Also, spend more time on important moments - like finding the note - to help readers feel how much they mean to you. You could make the ending stronger by showing how grandpa's words change how you think or what you plan to do next. Adding these details will help readers connect more with your story.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

I picked up the box and brought it to the floor, what was in here? The box seemed to be pulling my hands to itself [The box drew my hands towards it], urging me to open it. I slowly lifted the cardboard flap ane [and] peered in, photographs of people filled the whole box. #1 I flipped the box upside down and began rummaging through the enormous pile of pictures trying to find a family member. I gave up and dumped the photos back in to [into] the box and packed it away to play a game of chess. I sat on the floor and noticed a soft shine under the bed. I reached my hands under the bed and grabbed the shining object, another photo. #2 I looked at the photo and within a second the memories of everything hit me like a stampede of rhinos. I looked at the picture carefully as tears trickled quietly down my cheeks, grandpa.

The photo was a piece of the past, this was the only remained [remaining] part of grandpa. I looked at it, and the photo of grandpa laughing happily was staying in my brain. I went to my room and laid on my bed watching the ceiling and for the first time I noticed a small piece of paper sticking out of a gap in the middle of a concrete. I stood on my toes and pulled on the piece of paper. #3 I looked at it, Dear [dear] Issac, thank you for how well you helped me and treated me for my whole life now go help someone else! Grandpa I read [I read it] again and again my hands trembling at another remnant of grandpa, how did he even know I wasn't helping someone else? I looked at the note, perplexed. I noticed a ps on the back, I will always be here with you no

matter what you think. How did grandpa know that? When I was little my mum used to joke that grandpa was all-knowing and omniscient and now we know he is, even when he is no longer here.