

Section 1:

#1 "In my basement, I search through the shelves of the past. The light of my candle danced like crazy. Just then something fascinated me, as if it stole all of my attention in one menacing swoop. I brought it up stairs, and opened the lights, I placed the object on the table, and examined it closely, it was a glass jar."

Strengths: Your use of sensory details creates a vivid setting. The mysterious tone effectively builds suspense.

Weakness: Sentence structure → Your writing contains several comma splices where independent clauses are joined only by commas. For instance, in "I brought it up stairs, and opened the lights, I placed the object on the table, and examined it closely, it was a glass jar," multiple complete thoughts are incorrectly connected with commas. This makes your ideas rush together and confuses your reader.

Exemplar: ***I brought it upstairs and switched on the lights. I placed the object on the table and examined it closely; it was a glass jar.***

#2 "My own curiosity was slowly killing my sanity, bit by bit my sanity melted away. At last, I opened it. The stench of emotions polluted the air, as life's memories came spurting out. This one powerful jar was connected to all my memories, my mind weaved a tapestry of thought."

Strengths: Your metaphors about emotions and memories create powerful imagery. The short sentence "At last, I opened it" effectively builds tension.

Weakness: Metaphor clarity → Your metaphors about "stench of emotions" and memories "spurting out" are vivid but confusing when combined. It's unclear how emotions can have a smell or how memories can physically spurt from a jar. This makes it difficult for readers to visualise what's actually happening in your story.

Exemplar: ***The jar released a wave of intense feelings as memories came flooding back. This powerful object seemed connected to all my past experiences, weaving them into a tapestry of thoughts.***

#3 "Memories pained back, memories I didn't want to see, inside was a knife, dried blood spread across it. The knife only whispers of murder and grief. 'Oh, greed has taken over all of us, it will be the reason to our inevitable doom.' said the note of the left. 'Only thee who wield thy knife is truly an evil maniac,' The right note said. And lastly the one embedded in the bottom 'Both bad and good are equal in thee, but thy humanity will perish.'"

Strengths: The revelation of the knife creates a dramatic turning point. The mysterious notes add intrigue and deeper meaning.

Weakness: Coherence → Your paragraph jumps quickly between different elements (memories, knife, blood, multiple notes) without clear connections between them. For example, you suddenly mention notes without explaining where they came from or how they relate to the jar. This makes your narrative feel disjointed and confusing.

Exemplar: *Inside the jar was a knife with dried blood spread across its blade. Beside it were three notes. The first read, "Oh, greed has taken over all of us; it will be the reason for our inevitable doom." The second warned, "Only thee who wield thy knife is truly an evil maniac." The third, embedded in the bottom of the jar, stated, "Both bad and good are equal in thee, but thy humanity will perish."*

Your narrative has a captivating premise with the mysterious pickle jar as a vessel of forgotten memories. The atmosphere you create with candlelight and basement setting works well to establish a creepy mood. However, your story would benefit from clearer connections between the jar, the memories, and the knife revelation. Try to explain more clearly how these elements relate to each other. Also, consider developing your main character's reaction to these discoveries in more detail. Why are these memories painful? What does the knife represent to them? Additionally, your narrative would be stronger with more varied sentence structures to control pacing. Start by breaking up longer sentences into shorter ones at tense moments. Also, make sure to maintain logical transitions between your ideas so readers can follow your story more easily. ■

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

The Pickle Jar

In my basement, I search through the shelves of the past. The light of my candle danced like crazy. Just then something fascinated me, as if it stole all of my attention in one menacing swoop. I brought it ~~up stairs~~ [upstairs], and ~~opened the lights~~ [switched on the lights], ~~I placed the object on the table, and examined it closely, it was a glass jar.~~ [I placed the object on the table and examined it closely; it was a glass jar.] I interrogated it on the table, its glass so cunning and slippery, its reflection smiled at me sinisterly, and its cap ~~brutely~~ [brutally] standing there. I searched every corner of my mind yet, I didn't recall any information of this object.

#1 ~~It was as if it is a mere hallucination, made by me.~~ [It was as if it were a mere hallucination of my own making.] The clock ~~ticks emphasized~~ [ticks emphasised] the time between me and the mysterious object. I questioned myself if I should keep it sealed or open it. My own curiosity was slowly killing my sanity, bit by bit my sanity melted away. At last, I opened it. The stench of emotions polluted the air, as life's memories came spurting out. This one powerful jar was connected to all my memories, my mind weaved a tapestry of thought.

#2 I dared myself to look at it, and as my eyes slowly gazed on this jar ~~paining~~ [painful] memories came rushing back. My eyes ~~stun like hell~~ [stung terribly], as my body was ~~paralysed~~ [paralysed], this jar was a sculptor to all my memories. However, I still couldn't remember what this was ~~my physical body may have frozen.~~ [though my physical body may have frozen.] But my mind was intrigued by the history of this jar. ~~It's~~ [Its] mischievous glare yet, again stared emotionlessly at me. I went to see what was inside, and what was inside shocked me. My nerves stopped, my bloodstream hesitated, and my heart bulged.

#3 ~~Memories pained back~~ [Memories rushed painfully back], memories I didn't want to see, inside was a knife, dried blood spread across it. The knife only whispers of murder and grief. "Oh, greed has taken over all of us, it will be the reason to our inevitable doom," ~~said the note of the left.~~ [said the note on the left.] "Only thee who wield thy knife is truly an evil maniac," ~~The~~ [the] right note said. And lastly ~~the one~~ [the note] embedded in the bottom "~~Both~~ ["Both] bad and good are equal in thee, but thy humanity will perish."