

Writing Feedback

DAY 1 | 21st April | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths: Your use of colour descriptions creates a vivid visual palette. The contrast between "navy blue" and "cerulean" effectively captures the ocean's dynamic appearance. Weakness: Sensory overload. → You've included numerous descriptive elements in quick succession, which can overwhelm the reader. Phrases like "molding gently to each step" and "clouds like wisps of cotton candy" are beautiful individually, but when combined with so many other vivid descriptions, they compete for attention rather than building a cohesive scene. *Perhaps focus on fewer but deeper sensory details: "The ocean stretched before me, its surface a shifting canvas of navy blue and cerulean that captured the midday sun's brilliance."*

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths: Your auditory imagery effectively creates a multilayered soundscape. The contrast between the "steady heartbeat" of waves and the "squeals" of children shows good range. Weakness: Disconnected imagery. → While individually evocative, the sensory elements feel somewhat disjointed. For example, the transition from wind "whispering tales to verdant palm trees" to children "squealing in pleasure" happens too abruptly. The paragraph jumps between different sensory experiences without fully developing any of them. *Consider linking your sensory observations: "Children's delighted squeals harmonised with the rhythm of crashing waves, creating the beach's distinctive symphony."*

#3 (Third paragraph): Strengths: Your taste and smell descriptions are particularly nuanced. The juxtaposition of "salty tang" with "subtle, nutty taste" of coconut water creates a well-rounded gustatory experience. Weakness: Passive observation. → Your descriptions remain somewhat detached rather than immersive. Phrases like "the air was thick with the scent" and "seaweed drifted ashore" position you as an observer rather than an active participant fully experiencing these sensations. *Engage more directly with the sensations: "I savoured the contrast between the salt crystals on my lips and the sweet coconut water cooling my throat as the tropical breeze carried hints of fruit from nearby stalls."*

Your piece demonstrates strong command of descriptive language and covers all five senses as required. However, the writing would benefit from more purposeful

organisation of sensory details. While you've included numerous vivid descriptors, they sometimes feel scattered rather than woven into a coherent experience. Additionally, consider how these sensations affect you emotionally – how does the warmth of the sand make you feel? What memories or emotions do these sensations evoke?

■ Focusing more on your personal response to these sensations would add depth to the piece. Also, consider grouping related sensory experiences together rather than jumping between sights, sounds, and smells within the same paragraph. You could structure each paragraph around a different sense for clearer organisation. Additionally, explore the connections between different sensory experiences – how the sound of waves complements the salty taste in the air, for instance. Your rich vocabulary serves the piece well, but sometimes less is more; allowing readers to linger on fewer, more developed images can create a more immersive experience.

Overall score: 45/50

Section 2:

The warm, golden sand stretched endlessly beneath my feet, molding gently to each step. Tiny grains clung to my skin, their texture both soft and gritty. The ocean, a marvelous hue of navy blue, danced with streaks of cerulean under the midday sun. Waves rolled in, foamy and eager, crashing against the shore before retreating like a whispered secret. The sky, a vast expanse of azure, was dotted with clouds like wisps of cotton candy, lazily hovering above the cool, monsoon breeze. Seagulls soared above, their wings like blades slicing through the air with natural grace. #1

The crash of the waves filled the air, a steady heartbeat of the sea. The wind whispered tales to the verdant palm trees, causing fronds to sway in rhythmic patterns. Children squealed in pleasure as they chased the bobbing tide, their voices blending in with the ear-piercing squawks of the seagulls. Somewhere in the distance, a beach vendor calls ~~calls~~ [called] out, the scent of hand-battered ~~fries~~ [chips] along with fresh coconut wafting through the air. #2

The salty tang of the ocean lingered on my lips, mixed with the faint buttery scent of sunscreen. A sip of chilled coconut water invigorated me, its subtle, nutty taste a perfect

companion to the sun's heat. The air was thick with the scent of salt and sun-kissed sand, mingling with the occasional hints of tropical fruit from nearby stalls. Seaweed drifted ashore, its earthy aroma blending seamlessly into the coastal breeze. #3

I ran my fingers through the sand, feeling its fine, grainy texture slip between my hands like liquid gold. A smooth seashell caught my eye, its cool surface worn smooth by the tide. As the warm sun embraced my skin, a gentle ~~draught~~ [draught] offered fleeting relief. The beach, a sensory masterpiece, held the magic of the sea – raw, untamed, and breathtakingly beautiful.