

Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | 14th April | DAY 1 WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1: "My eyes were caught on the waves, as the smell of fresh, aquatic, water filled my nose as a whole."

Strengths:

- You've attempted to engage multiple senses (sight and smell) right from the beginning
- The focus on waves creates an immediate beach setting

Weakness: Sensory overload → Your opening sentence tries to combine too many sensations at once without fully developing either. The phrase "caught on the waves" is somewhat awkward as it doesn't clearly convey what you're seeing about the waves. Similarly, "filled my nose as a whole" is an unusual way to describe smelling something. The repetitive use of "as" also weakens the sentence structure.

Exemplar: *My gaze was drawn to the hypnotic rhythm of the waves while the crisp, salty scent of the ocean filled my nostrils.*

#2: "When the laughter and giggles of children were also processing in my brain, I knew this beach was filled with nothing but sweet, relaxing, calmness."

Strengths:

- You've included auditory elements with the children's sounds
- You attempt to create an emotional response to the setting

Weakness: Technical language → The phrase "processing in my brain" sounds clinical rather than immersive for a sensory description. This technical approach distances the reader from the experience rather than drawing them in. Additionally, the conclusion about the beach being "filled with nothing but sweet, relaxing, calmness" tells rather than shows these qualities.

Exemplar: *The cheerful laughter and excited giggles of children washed over me, completing the sense of peaceful contentment that only a perfect day at the beach can bring.*

#3: "I glanced over to the sand, and saw children running around, building sand castles, and even throwing sand at each other."

Strengths:

- You've included specific beach activities that create a vivid visual scene
- The variety of children's activities adds life and movement to your description

Weakness: Limited descriptive depth → While you mention what the children are doing, you don't describe how the sand looks, feels, or any other sensory details about it. This misses an opportunity to fully engage with the sensory aspect of the prompt, particularly touch, which would be relevant when describing sand.

Exemplar: *I glanced toward the golden sand where children darted about, their small hands patting damp towers of grainy castles, whilst others squealed as fine sprays of warm sand scattered from their playful tosses.*

■ Your piece shows potential in creating a beach scene, but needs more attention to detail and sensory development. The prompt specifically asks for all five senses, yet your description focuses primarily on sight and sound, with minimal attention to smell and touch, and no mention of taste. Try to balance your descriptions by dedicating more space to the missing senses. Also, consider varying your sentence structure to create a more engaging rhythm. Your descriptions would benefit from more specific details rather than general statements. For example, instead of saying water is "aquatic," describe its temperature, clarity, or movement. Additionally, try to incorporate more sensory-specific vocabulary to create a more immersive experience. Engage the reader by showing how the sensations make you feel rather than simply listing what you observe. Remember that effective sensory writing often connects the external experience to internal emotions or memories.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

My eyes were ~~caught on~~ [fixed upon] the waves, as the smell of fresh, ~~aquatic~~, [salty] water filled my nose ~~as a whole~~ [completely]. #1 I glanced over to the sand, and saw

children running around, building sand castles, and even throwing sand at each other. #3
As I took a step towards the ocean, the noise of gushing water was coming closer, and
~~later better than never~~ [before I knew it], next thing I knew there was water at my feet.
When the laughter and giggles of children were also ~~processing in my brain~~ [reaching my
ears], I knew this beach was filled with nothing but sweet, relaxing, ~~calmness~~ [calm]. #2