

Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | 16th April | DAY 3 | HOLIDAY WRITING

Section 1:

#1: (First paragraph) Strengths: Your writing effectively conveys excitement and anticipation about meeting your baby cousin. You use personal emotions to engage the reader. Weakness: Narrative flow → Your opening paragraph jumps between different events rather abruptly. For instance, you introduce Jayden and immediately mention his phone usage without developing that relationship further. The paragraph also shifts quickly from arriving at the park to climbing equipment without transitional elements. Several phrases like "I was finally going to meet my baby cousin" and "I was on the climbing equipment" would benefit from connecting details. Exemplar: ***I could barely contain my excitement as I stepped into the park where I would finally meet my baby cousin Leo. I had only seen him in photos until now, so my heart raced with anticipation. On the way, we had met some family members including my best friend Jayden, who unfortunately spent most of his time engrossed in his new phone rather than playing with me.***

#2: (Middle section about Leo and Ari) Strengths: Your description of baby Leo contains some vivid physical details. You also demonstrate warmth and affection in your interactions with the children. Weakness: Sensory description development → While you mention Leo's appearance briefly, your descriptions could be expanded to create more vivid imagery. Phrases like "whitish skin" and "he was frowning a bit" give basic information but miss opportunities for deeper sensory engagement. Your interactions with Ari are mentioned but not described in detail that would help readers visualise the scene. Exemplar: ***Leo was absolutely adorable with his pudgy cheeks and tiny chubby arms. His soft, pale skin seemed almost translucent in the afternoon sunlight, and though he was frowning slightly from tiredness, his dark eyes were alert and curious as they met mine for the first time.***

#3: (Tree climbing section) Strengths: Your writing includes specific physical details about the tree. You create a sense of adventure through the climbing activity. Weakness: Event sequencing → This section feels somewhat disconnected from previous events. The transition from playing with Kian to climbing the tree happens abruptly. Phrases like "I then proceeded to climb" and "nearly broke my ankle doing so" lack context about why you chose to climb or how you felt during these moments. The description "leafy head penetrated the green cover" is unique but needs clearer connection to your emotional

experience. Exemplar: *Feeling adventurous after playing with Kian, I spotted a perfect climbing tree with rough brown bark and sticky sap dripping from its branches. The thrill of climbing higher and higher made my heart race, especially when my mum captured the moment my head pushed through the dense canopy of green leaves, giving me a spectacular view of the entire park.*

Your piece shows great potential but would benefit from more thoughtful organisation and deeper engagement with sensory details. The narrative jumps quickly between different events and people without fully developing each scene. While you introduce many family members, readers don't get a complete picture of their personalities or your relationships with them.

■ Try focusing on fewer events but describing them more thoroughly. Additionally, consider organising your narrative chronologically with clear transitions between scenes. You might also expand on your emotional responses throughout the day rather than primarily mentioning excitement at the beginning. Including more sensory details about the park environment would help ground your readers in the setting. Finally, consider ending with a reflection on why this meeting was meaningful to you and how it might affect your relationship with your cousins going forward.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

I could barely contain my excitement as I stepped into the park. I was finally going to meet my baby cousin. I had never met him, only seen him in photos, so you can imagine how excited I was. On the way to the park, we had met some family members also going to ~~met~~ [meet] the baby, and one of these relatives, Jayden, was my best friend. We were basically ~~attachment~~ [attached to] each other. Unfortunately, he spent ~~a lot~~ [a lot] of time on his new phone, so I didn't get to play with him much. As soon as we got there, I was on the climbing equipment, scaling it in a record time of 15 ~~second~~ [seconds]. JJ also went up to the top, and this was the first time he had ever done so. He was trying to come down, so I annoyed him by shaking the equipment. ~~I told me~~ [He told me] to stop, so I did it some more and then stopped.

A while later, the rest of our relatives appeared, and I met the new baby, whose name was Leo. He was really cute, with lots of baby fat and small chubby arms, and whitish skin, but he was frowning a bit, because he was tired. I spent ~~a lot~~ [a lot] of time with him, and kept thinking about how excited I was to meet him. After that, I didn't really know what to do, so I decided to go and eat some rocky road made by a relative. It was so good; I recommended ~~him~~ [he consider] making a rocky road ~~restaunt~~ [restaurant]. I ate some other food, which tasted better than chocolate. I was barely able to stop eating and go play with Leo's elder brother, who was only 2 years old, and whose name was Ari. I had ~~a lot~~ [a lot] of fun, but my sister kind of hogged him, and she didn't really let me play. Leo and Ari had to go after that, because their parents had to do work. Ari loved trucks, and we got him ~~and~~ [a] lights and sounds construction hauler, which he was really excited about. I helped him load it in, and also helped load other things into the car boot.

After that, I went and played with Kian, another cousin I had. I remember saying that day "Kian and Ari are the next JJ and I." No one could agree more. We had all seen Ari get upset because he didn't have Kian's attention. I had ~~a lot~~ [a lot] of fun with Kian, pushing him on the swings and giving him another lights and sounds construction hauler. I showed Kian ~~delightful~~ [delighted] parents how to use a hot wheel's car and truck Kian had ~~got~~ [gotten], and they thanked me. I then proceeded to climb a large tree, which had lots of brown bark and sticky sap. It was really fun, and my mum took a photo of me as my leafy head penetrated the green cover of leaves. It wasn't a long fall, so I jumped off the tree, and nearly broke my ankle doing so. After that, I helped Kian ~~elder~~ [older] sister, Riya, down the same tree I had climbed by telling ~~he~~ [her] what to do. Once I was finished with that, we had to go, so we said our goodbyes and jumped in our warm cars.