

Writing Feedback

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

Section 1:

#1: Paragraph 1 Strengths: Your piece establishes the setting effectively with details about the hotel and family members present. You've created a clear context for your diary entry. Weakness: Lack of emotional connection → While you mention this is your first time in Brisbane, you don't share your feelings or thoughts about this milestone. The focus quickly shifts to logistics rather than your personal experience. Exemplar: *Dear Diary, Today marked my first day in Brisbane, a city I've been eagerly anticipating visiting for years. The excitement bubbled inside me as we drove through the unfamiliar streets toward our accommodation, the five-star Marriott Bonvoy.*

#2: Paragraph 5 Strengths: Your sensory descriptions of the food create vivid imagery. The details about the "savoury smell" of pizza and pasta help readers imagine the scene. Weakness: Underdeveloped narrative flow → The paragraph jumps between describing food and mentioning cousins arriving without clear transitions. This creates a disjointed reading experience. Exemplar: *When we arrived at Corbett and Claude, an Italian restaurant filled with delicious aromas, I was delighted to see my other cousins had already gathered there. The evening became special as we celebrated my cousin's tenth birthday with a specially prepared cake that accommodated their allergies.*

#3: Paragraph 6 Strengths: Your description of the cake uses strong sensory language and specific details. The texture and appearance are well articulated. Weakness: Repetitive structure → The paragraph contains several sentences beginning with "There was/were" creating a monotonous rhythm. Exemplar: *The chocolate cake featured a delicate texture that melted upon my tongue, crowned with bright red strawberries arranged in a perfect circle. At its centre sat a fondant number "10" surrounded by ten flickering candles, commemorating my cousin's milestone birthday.*

■ Your diary entry contains vivid sensory details, particularly when describing food and physical sensations. However, you could improve the depth of your writing by including more of your thoughts and feelings throughout the experience. For instance, how did you feel about seeing all your relatives? What emotions did you experience during your first day in a new city? Additionally, your narrative structure sometimes feels disconnected, with abrupt transitions between topics. Try using linking words and phrases to connect your ideas more smoothly. Also, your concluding paragraph ends the day quite suddenly without reflecting on the experience or anticipating what might happen next. Consider

adding a brief reflection about your hopes or expectations for the rest of your Brisbane visit. Remember that a diary entry is personal, so including your inner thoughts will make it more authentic and engaging.

Overall Score: 43/50

Section 2:

Dear Diary,

Today was my first day in Brisbane. I have not been here in my entire life, which is quite crazy, because I have travelled to a lot of places. When we arrived, we drove straight to our hotel, which was a five star hotel called Marriott Bonvoy, Brisbane. We were really lucky, because we had almost booked one and a half levels, and everyone in our family was coming. This includes my cousins from Hong Kong, my cousins from Hobart, my aunties, and my uncles. etc #1

We didn't go on a plane, because we normally take our car with us on long trips, so we don't need to rent a car to drive around in. It took us a few days to get here, because we stopped in Coffs Harbour for three days, and we got to go to the Big Banana. It was a really boring trip, because it felt like it took literally FOREVER to get here.

We arrived here in Brisbane at around four in the afternoon. Our cousins from Hong Kong were following us the whole time with their rented car, as they were living with us in our house for a few days. They chose the same level that we were sleeping on. Our room number was in the 2000s. When we arrived, one of the staff gave us free cupcakes to enjoy, and they even gave us an extra one when one of them fell on the ground. It was a delectable treat for us. My family were very tired, and we didn't want to do anything apart from resting for the rest of the day.

When our cousins first arrived in Sydney, Jed, the older brother, was sick. This went on to make basically everyone in our house sick. Somehow, my sister, mum, grandma and grandpa didn't catch any sickness. I had the sickness the day we left, which made me very uncomfortable on the way. Later on, I found out that I caught Gastro, and when I recovered in Coffs Harbour, I was extremely happy.

For dinner, we went to an Italian restaurant called Corbett and Claude, and that's where a lot of my cousins arrived. Dinner was incredible, the savoury smell of the Margherita Pizza, and spaghetti ~~bolognese~~ [bolognaise] wafted in the air, making my mouth water. All of my other cousins arrived before us, because they went straight to the restaurant. At the end, we had a cake, because it was one of my cousin's birthday, and we had a cake with no eggs and nuts, because they were allergic to them. #2

It was a delicious chocolate cake, and it had a really soft texture that made it melt when it touched my tongue. There were bright red strawberries placed evenly on the top, and chocolate cream in between. The strawberries were sweet and bitter, and I loved the cake a lot. There was the number ten in the middle of the cake, as my cousin was turning ten. There were also ten candles placed around the number ten, and because there were a lot of people in my family, my cousin had ordered two of the exact same cakes. #3

I wasn't bothered to do anything else for a long time, because I was exhausted. Once I heard the sound of water splashing in the bathroom, I knew that the shower was almost ready for me to have a relaxing bath. The feeling of having a warm shower sent shivers down my spine, as I walked into the steaming shower. Afterwards, I put on my pyjamas, and I immediately fell ~~to~~ [asleep] without another word.