

Writing Feedback

DAY 3 | 23rd of April | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1: First paragraph about the plushie play Strengths: Your vivid sensory details create an immersive experience. The description of the "soft, squishy bodies" of the plushies effectively conveys the tactile sensation. Weakness: Limited emotional depth. → You focus primarily on physical descriptions but miss an opportunity to explore the deeper emotional significance of this friendship moment. The statement "I don't know where to begin" suggests importance, but you don't fully develop why this playdate was meaningful to you. Exemplar: *I treasure these moments with Kailin, whose playful spirit brings out the child in me that I sometimes forget exists.*

#2: The tanghulu paragraphs (4th and 5th paragraphs) Strengths: Your detailed sensory description of eating the tanghulu creates a vivid experience for the reader. The contrast between the "satisfying crunch" and the "intense sweetness" effectively conveys the multi-layered experience. Weakness: Disconnected narrative flow. → The transition between making the tanghulu and eating it feels abrupt. You mention "after a long 30 minutes" but don't include details about the process of making it together, missing an opportunity to show the collaborative experience that made this moment special. Exemplar: *Kailin and I worked together, giggling as we dipped strawberries into the bubbling sugar mixture, our teamwork making the sweet reward taste even more satisfying when we finally bit into our creations.*

#3: Final paragraph about Kailin leaving Strengths: You effectively capture the emotional shift from joy to sadness with subtle details like "the sky had turned a soft shade of grey" that mirror your emotional state. Weakness: Underdeveloped emotional resolution. → While you mention the physical sensation of missing Kailin, you don't reflect on what the day meant to you or how it impacted your friendship. The diary entry ends abruptly without providing closure or reflection on the significance of the experience. Exemplar: *As I closed the door, I felt grateful for these precious hours that strengthened our bond—moments of simple joy that I would cherish until our next adventure together.*

■ Your diary entry excels at creating vivid sensory details that bring the playdate to life. You've included rich descriptions of touch, taste, sound, and smell throughout the piece.

However, your writing would benefit from deeper emotional reflection about why this day was meaningful to you. Consider adding more of your personal thoughts and feelings throughout each activity rather than focusing primarily on describing the physical experiences. Also, try connecting the separate activities with smoother transitions to create a more cohesive narrative flow. You could add reflection moments between activities to show how your mood evolved throughout the day. Additionally, your conclusion could be strengthened by including a reflection on what this friendship means to you and why you value these moments with Kailin. This would give your diary entry more emotional depth and make it feel more complete as a personal reflection.

Overall Score: 44/50

Section 2:

18th of April The Unreal Playdate

I don't know where to begin, it all happened so fast. I have a sincere friend called Kailin. The moment she stepped foot into my home, she leapt onto my bed, I followed along. We spent hours lost in our own world, surrounded by a mountain of plushies. The soft, squishy bodies of the stuffed animals felt warm and comforting as we tossed them back and forth, each one of them coming to life in our hands. Kailin and I giggled as we made up wild adventures for them. #1

After almost getting choked from the plushie fight, Kailin and I began to have lunch together, enjoying an ambrosial meal, the table was set with a spread of vibrant, homemade food. I picked up a slice of warm, crusty bread, its golden edges crisp against the soft, airy inside. The rich smell of melted cheese filled the air as Kailin handed me a bowl of creamy, tomato soup. Every bite felt like a small celebration, the simple joy of sharing food with a friend filling the space between us.

To pass the time, Kailin and I had some fun with bubbles, ~~they~~ [which] drifted lazily through the air, catching the light and shimmering like tiny rainbows. I heard the soft pop each time one burst, leaving behind the faint scent of soap. The cool breeze brushed against my skin as I reached out, my fingers sliding over the slick surface before they vanished. A faint taste of soap lingered on my lips after one popped to

[too] close, and I laughed, the sound bright and carefree. The warm sun on my face mixed with the fresh scent of grass, and for a moment, ~~Kailin and I was~~ [Kailin and I were] lost in the simple joy of the floating bubbles.

As soon as we'd gotten back inside, my mum had left Kailin and I astonished, as she had announced we could craft tanghulu! We immediately started the process by boiling sugar and water at the right temperature, after a long 30 minutes of trying to figure out the correct steps, we've done it. #2

The moment the tanghulu touched my lips, I was hit with a satisfying crunch as the hardened sugar shell shattered beneath my teeth. It was like biting into glass, but sweet, the crisp sound echoing in my mind. As the shell broke apart, the intense sweetness of sugar flooded my mouth, a rich, caramel-like flavour that coated my tongue. The sharp, slightly tart taste of fruit, whether it was juicy strawberry or tangy hawthorn berry, immediately followed, cutting through the sugary sweetness and balancing it perfectly.

It was one of those quiet afternoons when Kailin, my mom, and I couldn't quite decide what to do. After bouncing around several ideas, we spotted the guess who game tucked away on the shelf. The colourful box caught our eye, and without needing to say much, we all exchanged excited glances. A few seconds later, the board was set up, the little cards were ~~shuffles~~ [shuffled], and we were ready to dive into the game, each of us eager to figure out who was behind the mystery character.

The sound of the little tiles clicking shut filled the room as Kailin, my mom, and I leaned in eager to guess. I could feel the smooth, cool surface of the board beneath my fingers as I picked a character, the cardboard cards slightly worn from years of play. Kailin's laugh echoed in the air, bright and playful, as she asked, "Is your person wearing glasses?" I could taste the faint sweetness of the soda we had been sipping, its bubbles tickling my tongue with each gulp. The room felt alive with the energy of the game, the mix of sounds ~~smells~~ [smells,] and excitement blending into the moment of pure, simple joy.

The sky had turned a soft shade of grey as Kailin stood by the door, her shoes on, her smile fading. The house, once buzzing with laughter, now felt too quiet, too still. I gave her one last hug, holding on just a second longer, not ready to let go. As she stepped outside, the silence ~~settles~~ [settled] in like a heavy blanket, and I watched her walk away, already missing her. #3

