DAY 2 | 22nd of April | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1 (Paragraph 1) Strengths: Your use of simile "like a glowing yolk" creates a vivid visual image of the sun. The description of "blocky clouds" effectively hints at the Minecraft setting right from the beginning. Weakness: Limited sensory palette → While you introduce visual elements well, the opening could benefit from more diverse sensory details to fully immerse the reader in this blocky world. Exemplar: *The sun floated above the pixelated horizon like a glowing yolk in the sky, casting warm, honeyed light that seemed to pulse with each passing second, while blocky clouds drifted lazily across the infinite blue expanse.*

#2 (Paragraph 3) Strengths: Excellent personification in "orange tongues licking hungrily" to describe fire. Your contrast between the destructive fire and the gentle "ash settled gently like grey confetti" creates compelling imagery. Weakness: Tense inconsistency → The paragraph shifts from present tense ("burned quietly") to past tense ("didn't stop until") and back again, creating a disjointed reading experience. Exemplar: The forest fire burns quietly on a nearby hill, its orange tongues licking hungrily at the wood, pixelated sparks rising like fireflies caught in a dream, continuing its dance of destruction until trees begin to vanish as ash settles gently like grey confetti over the landscape.

#3 (Paragraph 5) Strengths: Your metaphor of "lanterns blinded those around" effectively conveys their intense brightness. The personification of villagers with "out of shape mouths" and "noses twitching like itchy dogs" provides memorable characterization. Weakness: Clarity of expression → Some phrases like "Lanterns blinded those around as they hund outside homes" contain errors and unclear descriptions that diminish the overall effect. Exemplar: Lanterns cast their protective glow outside homes made of cobble and oak, their warm light forming a barrier against the zombies that lurk hungrily in the shadows, while villagers murmur with their distinctively shaped mouths, their noses twitching like curious dogs as dreams overtake them.

■ Your piece brilliantly captures the essence of Minecraft through rich figurative language and creative imagery. The juxtaposition between the peaceful landscape and lurking dangers creates tension that keeps the reader engaged. However, your writing would benefit from more consistent tense usage throughout the piece. Also, consider

developing a clearer emotional connection to this place - why is it your favourite? Additionally, you could strengthen your ending by connecting back to the beginning to create a more satisfying conclusion. The paragraph about digging into the earth could include more sensory details about how it feels to discover these treasures. Try to maintain clearer transitions between paragraphs to help guide your reader through this blocky world. Your creativity shines through, but focusing on these elements will make your description even more immersive.

Score: 43/50

Section 2:

My favourite place

The sun floated above the pixelated horizon like a glowing yolk in the sky with blocky clouds, the light shone over our world that was built block by block. The land stretched through biomes that were stitched together by rivers that glittered like veins of silver. Each step across the grass released a soft crunch, as though I were walking on dried leaves in autumn. The scent was faintly earthy, like fresh soil after rain. #1

Towering spruce trees reached toward the sky like green giants, their leaves rustling in the breeze. In the distance, a jagged mountain pierced the sky, capped with snow that gleamed under the square sun's gaze. Shadows draped over its edges, creating the illusion of movement as if the land itself breathed slowly.

A forest fire burned quietly on a nearby hill, its orange tongues licking hungrily at the wood, pixelated sparks rising like fireflies caught in a dream. The fire didn't [doesn't] stop until all the trees started [start] to vanish, as ash settled gently like grey confetti. The villagers stared [stare] at the forest which was once there but now gone. #2

Below my feet, the earth groaned as I dug down into its core. Torchlights dancing and singing [dance and sing] as I find the shiny iron, glittering emeralds and the sparkling blue diamonds. Caves opened like yawning mouths, their interiors cloaked in velvet darkness. Somewhere in the thick void, a skeleton rattled its bones the sound was dry and sharp, like twigs snapping underfoot.

Aboveground, the village slept under a patchwork sky of darkness and twinkling stars. Lanterns blinded those around as they hund [hung] outside homes made of cobble and oak, their warm glow seary [scaring] away the zombies that wanted to have their meals. Villagers murmured with their out of shape mouths, noses twitching like itchy dogs and their dreams taking over. #3

This world has infinite creativity, no rules and most importantly no limit. You can scatter the vast landscape, explore the caves of doom, fight the monsters that make your friends scream or build whatever your desires.