

Writing Feedback

TERM 2 | WEEK 3 WRITING | 18th May | Y5 SCHOLARSHIP

#1 - Opening paragraph about the key collection

Strengths: You create mystery and intrigue by describing the special key that "was calling out to her every day." The collection of keys with different stories gives depth to Zoe's character. **Weak sentence flow** → The sentences feel choppy and disconnected. "There were many types of them in her little box. Some were big, some small and some even had a heart engraved on it" reads like a list rather than smooth storytelling. The pronoun "them" at the beginning is unclear since keys haven't been mentioned yet. **Exemplar:** *"Zoe's little box contained many different keys she had collected throughout her lifetime. Some were large, others small, and one even had a heart engraved on its surface."*

#2 - The war news and Zoe's emotional response

Strengths: You show Zoe's empathy by connecting current events to her personal loss. The detail about her aunty experiencing war creates emotional depth. **Unclear connections between ideas** → The jump from testing keys to hearing news feels sudden. "She had the same emotions before like the people in war, feeling pity for the innocent people" is confusing because it's unclear when Zoe felt these emotions before. **Exemplar:** *"Hearing about the war reminded Zoe of her aunty's stories and filled her with the same sadness she felt when her aunty died."*

#3 - The neighbours' reaction and resolution

Strengths: You address realistic challenges refugees face, including community resistance. The peaceful resolution shows problem-solving. **Missing details about character development** → The neighbours change their minds too quickly without showing how their feelings actually shifted. "The pain and family losses they experienced made them feel more accepting" doesn't explain the process clearly. **Exemplar:** *"When the neighbours heard about the refugees' lost homes and families, they began to understand their suffering and welcomed them to stay."*

■ Your story tackles an important topic with genuine care for people affected by war. The magical key concept is creative and gives Zoe power to make a real difference. However, your writing would benefit from smoother connections between ideas and more detailed

explanations of how characters change their feelings. Additionally, some sentences need better flow to help readers follow your story more easily. Also, adding more specific details about how Zoe convinces people and how the community adapts would make your story stronger.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 There were many types of ~~them~~ [keys] in her little box. Some were big, some small [;] and some even had a heart engraved on ~~it~~ [them]. She had been collecting them throughout her lifetime [;] and each one had its own story [.] ~~but~~ [But] there was one she always wondered about. It was calling out to her every day, as if it wanted her to find its matching partner.

#2 Zoe was looking for the right doors that ~~match~~ [matched] locks whenever she could. She found the pairing, as ~~it~~ [they] had names engraved or stuck on them. This morning, as she tested the keys, her eyes widened with shock. Each time she put the special key in, it changed shape to ~~the door holes shape~~ [fit the door hole's shape], and it could create portals to different countries. Her dad's tractor [door,] her bedroom ~~and~~ [door,] and even the attic door that was long forgotten could all be unlocked by this key.

As she ~~sits~~ [sat] down on the couch, she ~~turns~~ [turned] on the radio to ~~see~~ [hear] today's news. There was war ~~against~~ [in] many countries [;] thousands of innocent people ~~getting~~ [were being] killed. Children were crying, homes were gone, and people were praying to live. Her eyes filled up with ~~water~~ [tears] as she thought of her aunty.

#3 Zoe's aunty had experienced war before when she was young. Each night, she hoped to live another day and ~~stop~~ [see] the war - [end.] She was a loving aunty that placed her heart into Zoe's, always ~~fulfilling~~ [filling] her with love and laughter. ~~There was a big bomb was entering~~ [A big bomb entered] her hometown, exploding the area into pieces of dust and ~~ruble~~ [rubble]. Thousands were killed during the ~~bomb~~ [bombing], including ~~Zoes~~ [Zoe's] aunty.

She had the same emotions ~~before like~~ [as] the people in war, feeling pity for the innocent people. She decided that she would test a few first. She made the portal, convincing a

child and a mother to come ~~here~~ [through] tonight. They were happy living ~~here~~ [there] and wanted to stay ~~here~~ [there] until it ~~is~~ [was] safe to go back.

As they ~~walk~~ [walked] down the streets, the neighbours saw them and pondered with confusion. What were they doing? Who were they? Why were they here? When the neighbours looked at ~~Zoes~~ [Zoe's] house and saw two little tents [,] ~~and~~ [they] ~~realized~~ [realised] they were refugees that came from war zones.

They reported to Zoe and complained ~~there~~ [about their] foreign singing and that they were different to them [.] ~~and~~ [They said] they didn't want them ~~here~~ [there] on their street. She ~~apologised~~ [apologised] and explained to them how they ~~feel~~ [felt]. The pain and family losses they experienced made them feel more accepting.

After 2 weeks of living ~~here~~ [there], they decided to move in. If they ~~follow~~ [followed] the rules, there ~~will~~ [would] be no arguments. Zoe smiled with happiness as she got ready to bring more and more people.

Zoe drew the big circle outside, and thousands of happy faces started to make themselves ~~home~~ [at home]. There were joyful faces everywhere [;] and they cheered with happiness. She told them the rules, and they all agreed. They now lived peacefully in a safe place [.] ~~and~~ [And] when the war ~~stops~~ [stopped], they ~~can~~ [could] go back home.

As she sat down on the balcony chair, staring at all the people, she held the key and thought to herself [:] ~~this~~ [This] key can really have a lot of impact on everyone. With a little help, it can unlock freedom and happiness, anywhere, anytime.