

# Writing Feedback

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

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**#1** *"As I was drawn closer the the key, I squinted at it in bewilderment. It radiated power, filled to the brim with secrets that no one knew that they even needed. I tentatively reached my hand nearer to the key, then hastily drew it back."*

**Strengths:** Your writing creates a strong sense of mystery around the key. You show the character's careful, nervous behaviour well through actions like "tentatively reached" and "hastily drew it back."

**Weakness: Unclear pronoun reference** → The phrase "secrets that no one knew that they even needed" becomes confusing because it's unclear who "they" refers to. This makes readers stop and wonder if you mean the secrets need themselves, or if people need the secrets. Your sentence structure also has a small error with "closer the the key" which should be "closer to the key."

**Exemplar:** *"It radiated power, filled with secrets that no one knew they wanted to discover."*

**#2** *"Wandering around in the eerie quietness of the house, my mind erupted with questions. What WAS this key? Should I touch this? Will it help me or not? As my thoughts intertwined with the steady ticking of the clock, I decided to touch it ; I'm a locksmith, after all."*

**Strengths:** Your use of questions shows the character's inner conflict well. The connection to being a locksmith gives a good reason for the character's final decision.

**Weakness: Punctuation and spacing errors** → You have incorrect spacing before the semicolon in "touch it ; I'm a locksmith" - there should be no space before semicolons. Also, the questions work well but the phrase "Should I touch this?" sounds awkward when referring to the key that was just mentioned.

**Exemplar:** *"Should I touch it? Will it help me or harm me? As my thoughts intertwined with the steady ticking of the clock, I decided to touch it; I'm a locksmith, after all."*

**#3** *"The scene ripped away like wet paper as I felt the floor beneath me crumble. I screamed, but my cacophony of hollering was silent in the controlled 'tick tock' of the clocks, still unaware of my terror."*

**Strengths:** Your comparison of the scene ripping away "like wet paper" creates a vivid picture. The contrast between screaming and silence creates good tension.

**Weakness: Confusing sentence construction** → The phrase "my cacophony of hollering was silent" contradicts itself since a cacophony means loud, confused noise, but you say it was silent. Additionally, "clocks, still unaware of my terror" suggests the clocks should be aware, which doesn't make sense since clocks can't feel awareness.

**Exemplar:** *"I screamed, but my desperate cries seemed swallowed by the steady 'tick tock' of the clocks, which continued their rhythm, unaffected by my terror."*

■ **Overall Comments** Your piece has an engaging supernatural mystery that draws readers in effectively. The backstory about childhood trauma in the attic adds emotional depth to your narrative. However, your writing would benefit from clearer sentence structure and more careful proofreading for grammar mistakes. Also, you could strengthen your story by adding more concrete details about what the character sees and feels, rather than using abstract phrases. Additionally, work on making your descriptions more consistent so they don't contradict themselves. Focus on revising sentences that have unclear pronouns or confusing logic.

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**Score: 42/50**

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## **Section 2:**

As I was drawn closer ~~the~~ [to] the key, I squinted at it in bewilderment. It radiated power, filled to the brim with secrets that no one knew ~~that they even needed~~ [they wanted to discover]. I tentatively reached my hand nearer to the key, then hastily drew it back. I observed it again. It was made of a metal I'd never seen before... not brass, not steel, certainly not aluminium. **#1**

Wandering around in the eerie quietness of the house, my mind erupted with questions. What WAS this key? ~~Should I touch this?~~ [Should I touch it?] Will it help me or not? As

my thoughts intertwined with the steady ticking of the clock, I decided to touch it~~;~~  
[;] I'm a locksmith, after all. #2

I pulled it up onto my palm. It's [Its] cold surface chilled my skull. My hand trembled as the key nestled into my hand, yet not fully immersed, as if it wanted to run away, to go back into the attic, where it had always been. I shivered violently, feeling an unpleasant sensation of wrongness through my body. But yet... it felt like a nudge towards the right direction. I pulled my mind away from the present, thinking about last night when I found the key ~~in~~ [in] under my pillow, wondering where it came from. I know now. The attic. Where I suffered multiple nights as a child. My mind took me to the nights where my parents were clenching their fists, shoving me into the attic. I slept up there, begging for mercy, begging that no one would ever hear.

The scene ripped away like wet paper as I felt the floor beneath me crumble. ~~I screamed, but my cacophony of hollering was silent in the controlled 'tick tock' of the clocks, still unaware of my terror.~~ [I screamed, but my desperate cries seemed swallowed by the steady 'tick tock' of the clocks, which continued their rhythm, unaffected by my terror.]  
#3 I knew this moment had to come. It was inevitable. Still, though. I was upset at myself. If only I hadn't poked around with that key. What had I done??? Was this REALLY how this was going to end?