

Section 1

#1 - Opening passage: "I swayed gently in the breeze, dreaming about all the possibilities that could happen today. I heard a sharp, high pitched squeaking noise near one of my roots."

Strengths: Your opening creates an interesting point of view by writing from the tree's perspective. You establish a peaceful mood that contrasts well with what happens later.

Weakness: Unclear sentence connections → The connection between the tree's dreams and the squirrel's arrival feels sudden. The phrase "dreaming about all the possibilities that could happen today" is vague and doesn't connect smoothly to the squeaking noise that follows.

Exemplar: *I swayed gently in the breeze, enjoying the peaceful morning, when I heard a sharp, high-pitched squeaking noise near one of my roots.*

#2 - Middle section: "But suddenly, a sharp arc of agony shook me. It wasn't like the squirrel, a little bit of pain, but a strike that shook me down to my roots. Looking up, I saw a human, axe in hand."

Strengths: You create strong contrast between the gentle animal interactions and the violent human threat. The phrase "shook me down to my roots" works well as it connects to the tree's nature.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence structure → Many sentences start the same way and have similar lengths. The phrase "a little bit of pain" sounds too casual compared to the serious situation you're describing.

Exemplar: *Unlike the squirrel's gentle claws, this strike sent waves of agony through my entire being, shaking me from crown to roots.*

#3 - Ending section: "Sometimes, on quiet days, I hear my saviour call: 'Oh mighty oak, mighty oak, you will live on. No axe, no man will take your glory, your spirit, your life.'"

Strengths: You provide a hopeful ending that shows the tree's recovery. The repeated phrase "mighty oak" creates a rhythmic, almost song-like quality.

Weakness: Unexplained character introduction → The saviour character appears without explanation of who they are or why they would speak to the tree. This makes the ending feel disconnected from the rest of your story.

Exemplar: *Sometimes, on quiet days, I hear the assistant's voice carried on the wind, whispering words of encouragement that remind me of my survival.*

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Your piece shows creative thinking by telling the story from a tree's point of view, which is quite imaginative. You've created a clear beginning, middle, and end with the tree facing danger and surviving. However, your writing would benefit from smoother connections between ideas and more detailed explanations of events. The story jumps between scenes without enough connecting information, making it hard to follow at times. Additionally, you could improve your sentence variety by starting sentences in different ways and using different lengths. Also, some parts need clearer explanations, particularly the ending where the saviour appears without enough background information. To strengthen your writing, focus on connecting your ideas more smoothly and explaining important events more clearly. Work on varying your sentence beginnings and lengths to make your writing more interesting to read.

Score: 41/50

Section 2

#1 I swayed gently in the breeze, dreaming about all the possibilities that could happen today. I heard a sharp [,] high~~~~pitched squeaking noise near one of my roots. It scurried up my branches with surprising agility,~~~~ [,] it's [Its] little claws ~~digging~~ [dug] into my flesh. I felt the sharp tang of its ascent marking grooves in my bark, adding to the collection of them that had accumulated over the years [:] underneath the paws of the animals. It was a squirrel [:] ~~laying~~ [lying] ~~one~~ [on one] of my branches[—] a good one for sleeping. It was ~~cozy~~ [cozy] and not too far off the ground, but far enough to be out of reach of predators. I smiled. This little animal joined the zoo of creatures that called me home~~;~~ [:] insects, squirrels, possums and more.

#2 I have been alive for longer than anyone can count. I've seen these animals come and go [:] ~~reproduce,~~ [reproduce.] I've seen the whole cycle. But suddenly, a sharp arc of agony shook me. It wasn't like the squirrel [—] a little bit of pain [—] but a strike that shook me down to my roots. Looking up, I saw a human, axe in hand. The razor~~~~sharp edge gleamed malevolently,~~~~ [:] in the sunlight, as if laughing at my fate. I cried out in pain, screaming in a language that no human could understand. Animals quickly fled, seeming to sense the danger before it came. The man barely glanced at the creatures. He was focused. Focused on me. ~~My~~ [My] branches were slowly severed away from me, seeping bloody red sap. It was unbearable [—] the pain of it all and the thought of the end of my life. But as he prepared to

deliver the final blow to my trunk, his assistant protested, saying that this was more than enough wood. He paused, lowered his axe, and peered at the stack of wood. It felt like the world was holding ~~it's~~ [its] breath [;] until he nodded. I was relieved. I was forever grateful to that assistant[.] I ~~know~~ [knew] that he was saving me. Why, I ~~do~~ [did] not know. It ~~will~~ [would] forever remain a mystery.

#3 But slowly, I regained myself [:] my branches, my personality, my animals, and I was content. Sometimes, on quiet days, I hear my saviour call[:] 'Oh mighty oak, mighty oak ~~you~~ [You] will live on. No axe, no man will take your glory, your spirit, your life.'