Writing Feedback

TERM 2 - 2025 | WEEK 4 - Writing | Year 5 Scholarship Essentials

## **Section 1:**

#1 - Opening paragraph establishing the tree's perspective and the child's artistic activities

**Strengths:** Your piece creates an immediate connection between the tree and reader through first-person narration. The sensory details like "wind weaves around my leaves" help establish the setting effectively.

Weakness: Unclear sentence structure → The opening contains several ideas joined together without proper connections, making it difficult to follow. The phrase "A miniscule kid sits at my feet and paints a beautiful landscape on his canvas and admires it for a while before climbing my bark" runs multiple actions together without clear transitions between them.

Exemplar: Wind weaves around my leaves whilst my gnarled, mossy roots grip the dirt floor. A tiny child sits at my base, painting a beautiful landscape on his canvas. After admiring his work, he climbs up my bark and swings from my branches like a playful monkey.

#2 - The accident sequence and its immediate aftermath

**Strengths:** Your writing captures the emotional impact of the accident through the tree's perspective. The specific detail "approximately 24 metres" adds realism to the scene.

Weakness: Inconsistent emotional tone  $\rightarrow$  The description shifts abruptly between different emotional registers without smooth transitions. The phrase "made my blood run cold" introduces human characteristics that don't align with earlier tree imagery, creating confusion about the narrator's nature.

Exemplar: Then a dreaded thud sent shivers through my entire trunk. As I swayed to peer down, I saw the boy lying motionless after his terrible fall.

#3 - The tree's removal and final separation from the boy

**Strengths:** Your piece effectively shows the tree's deep attachment to the child. The ending creates genuine emotional impact through the tree's concern for the boy's wellbeing.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence patterns  $\rightarrow$  Many sentences follow the same structure, beginning with "Then" or simple subject-verb patterns. The phrase "Then my brothers and sisters experienced the same thing" lacks specific detail and uses basic connecting words throughout this section.

Exemplar: Meanwhile, my fellow trees faced the same fate. As the workers continued their destruction, my siblings cried out in desperation, but I could only think of my young friend.

■ Your piece demonstrates strong emotional storytelling through an unusual perspective that engages readers effectively. The bond between the tree and child creates a touching narrative foundation that carries throughout your writing. However, your sentences need better connections between ideas to help readers follow the story more smoothly. Additionally, you can strengthen your writing by varying your sentence beginnings and structures rather than relying on simple patterns. The emotional impact of your story would benefit from more consistent tone throughout, particularly when describing the tree's reactions. Also, adding more specific details about the characters' feelings and actions will help readers connect more deeply with your story. Furthermore, your dialogue and character interactions could be expanded to show rather than simply tell what happens between the tree and boy.

Overall Score: 39/50

## **Section 2:**

#1 Wind weaves around my leaves and [whilst] my gnarled, mossy roots grip the dirt floor. A miniscule kid sits at my feet and paints a beautiful landscape on his canvas and admires it for a while before climbing my bark and swinging from a branch like a monkey. [A tiny child sits at my base, painting a beautiful landscape on his canvas. After admiring his work for a while, he climbs up my bark and swings from my branches like a monkey.] I tickle him with my branches and he laughs loudlyand [before he] hugs me and leaves for his home.

#2 The next day, he came looking for melooking [whilst looking] down. He hugs me tightly and tells me about his horriblemiserable [, miserable] day. I hug him with my branches and I encourage him to play aroundand he does[, which he does eagerly]. He runs around me and hangs from my branches and sits on the top of my head [my highest branches]. Then, he fell off~~.~~ [,] Arms [his arms] flailing helplessly. His high-pitched screams filled the air. Then a dreaded thud made my blood run cold [sent shivers through my

entire trunk]. As I peered down, I saw the boy laying there lifeless after falling approximately 24 metres off [from] the ground. Days passed but no one found the boy. I was beginning to get worried because I couldn't do anything to help and I was scared that the boy wouldn't make it. Finallysome [, some] people wearing navy blue and [uniforms with] badges who looked important came rushing over and picked him up and carried him away.

#3 Many winters have passed and many snowflakes have fallen on me. The sun has beaten me with its UV rays and many kids have sat at my feet at the exact spot the [where the] little boy has [had] satbut [, but] unlike the little boy, none of them came back to visit. I didn't mind because the only thing I cared about was the boy's return.

Finallythe [, the] little boy came back covered with bandages and stitches<del>and</del> [. He] grimaced as he sat down and sighed. Then his mother came dashing through the woods and dragged him back home. Ever since, the boy's visits turned from everyday, regular [daily] visits to every month [monthly visits], making my days lonely and quiet. I would always look forward to the boy's visits, welcoming him with pink blossoms and my best leaves. One daysome [, some] strange men came and inspected me. Suddenly I felt a sharp pain in my trunk and as I turned around, to my horror, they were hacking and smacking at my trunk and I swayed violentlyand [. After] on the 9th swing, I fell down. Then [Meanwhile,] my brothers and sisters experienced the same thing. My siblings were crying for their survival but I was crying for the little boy. What was he going to do without me? I couldn't imagine the sight of it [such a scene]. When [As] I started to close my eyes and accept fate [, I] heard the pained voice of the boy I cared for. He ran towards me but got pushed awaythen [. Then] he watched me get wheeled away with tears in his eyes. Then [Finally,] the last thing I saw was him sitting at the place I had once stood and sobbing uncontrollably.