Writing Feedback

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

Section 1:

#1 "I have stood in this ancient grove for nine hundred years, my roots drinking from the same replenishing stream that has nurtured generations upon generations of human children."

Strengths: Your opening creates a strong sense of time and place, establishing the tree's ancient wisdom. The image of roots drinking from a stream connects nature and human life beautifully.

Weakness: Unclear timeline → Your piece jumps between different time periods without clear signals. You mention "nine hundred years" but then say the factory was built "eighty winters ago," making it confusing when events actually happened.

Exemplar: "For nine centuries, I have stood in this ancient grove, my roots drawing life from the stream that once nurtured countless generations of children."

#2 "As the catchment of the beige factory walls were placed together, my heart knew that nothing would ever be the same."

Strengths: You show the tree's emotional connection to the changes happening around it. The colour "beige" adds a specific visual detail that helps readers picture the scene.

Weakness: Grammar mistakes → Your sentence structure has problems with subject-verb agreement. "Catchment" doesn't fit properly with "walls were placed together," and the grammar makes the meaning unclear.

Exemplar: "As the beige factory walls rose around me, my heart knew that nothing would ever be the same."

#3 "I had fought the pollution that slithered up my body but I simply could not tolerate the derogatory impacts of the blackening wisps of smoke."

Strengths: Your use of "slithered" creates a vivid image of how pollution moves. You effectively show the tree's struggle against environmental damage.

Weakness: Word choice problems → "Derogatory" doesn't fit here because it means insulting or critical, not harmful. Also, "blackening wisps" is confusing because wisps are usually light and delicate.

Exemplar: "I had fought the pollution that slithered up my body, but I could not withstand the harmful effects of the thick, choking smoke."

■ Your piece tells an important environmental story through the eyes of an ancient tree, which is creative and engaging. However, your writing would benefit from clearer organisation and smoother connections between ideas. The story jumps around in time, making it hard to follow the sequence of events. Additionally, you could strengthen your paragraphs by focusing each one on a single main idea rather than mixing several topics together. Your vocabulary shows good effort, but some word choices don't quite fit their context, which can confuse readers. Also, several sentences have grammar problems that make your meaning unclear. To improve your content, try outlining your story first to organise events in chronological order. Furthermore, consider adding more specific details about how the pollution actually affects the tree's daily life. Your emotional connection between the tree and the little girl is touching, but you could develop this relationship more fully to make readers care even more about your characters.

Overall Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 [#1] I have stood in this ancient grove for nine hundred years, my roots drinking from the same replenishing stream that has nurtured generations upon generations of human children. I reminisce [remember] when they built the factory—a mere eighty winters ago—how [and how] my venerable bark shivered as my fellow companions were viciously lumbered [brutally felled]. They never understood the sheer griefand [, nor] how I wept golden sap for my fallen brethren, how I pitifully listened [or how I listened in anguish] as the piercing screams of my fallen comrades were swept away by the death-filled autumn wind.

#2 [#2] As the catchment of the beige factory walls were placed together [As the beige factory walls were erected], my heart knew that nothing would ever be the same. It was right. As centuries of fellowship had imminently vanished [As centuries of fellowship vanished], my heart filled with grief and sorrow after the hopes of new generations were relinquished [as hopes for new generations were abandoned]. The factory~~—it~~ [had] had brought nothing but despair and demise. No amenity [comfort] could ever replace the pain felt when the death of my family occurred [my family died] and centuries of togetherness had washed away like a wave. However, the families that resided in the depths of the lush forest had felt immense joy and comfort whenever they passed by me—the only tree in the grove remaining. One girl, around five years of agecoming [,]

would frequently stroll past, and she would clamber atop me, my old limbs deteriorating and creaking. We cherished the indelible memories that were created, every moment prized like a jewel.

#3 [#3] Sadly, her parents had founded [built] the pollutionemitting [-emitting] factory, the bitter taste of polluted water corrupting [and the bitter taste of polluted water corrupted] my withered roots. As much as I wished to, I could not bring myself to trust the girl [, for] the [The] little child's parents were responsible for causing all the cruel devastation that had been reflected on [inflicted upon] me. I yearned for them to realise [recognise] their aberrations [mistakes], but that moment never came. I had noticed that happiness was just a fleeting moment, all my joy being pulled away as the pollution crept into my body. The lingering feeling of hatred staying [remained] in my archaic body. The secrets of generations and families were entrapped and embedded in me. I knew that when my old body gave way to the ice-cold touch of death, lost secrets would leave my soul, never to be discovered again.

I had fought the pollution that slithered up my bodybut [, but] I simply could not tolerate the derogatory impacts [withstand the harmful effects] of the blackening wisps [clouds] of smoke that made their way into my withering body. Soon, the last of my life were taken [my final breath was taken], my delicate bark now peeling back. I looked around fro [for] the last time [and] and noticed something—the demolition of the factory. I groaned and moaned as death himself took my miserable life, the seeds of my willow spreading, and the pollution lessening...