## TERM 2 | WEEK 1 WRITING | 07th May | Y5 SCHOL

## Section 1:

**#1**: CHIRP! CHIRP! CHIRP! As she walked the empty halls in the early morning, an odd chill in the air gave her the sense that something bad was going to happen. A twitch of something dark made her come back to her senses. She walked on in the coldness that surrounded ... wait what? She stopped, curiosity and dread overwhelming her. 'Did my shadow just move?' she whispered to herself.

#### Strengths:

- Your opening creates immediate intrigue with the sound effects and mysterious atmosphere
- The transition from normal to supernatural is well-paced

Narrative Inconsistency  $\rightarrow$  Your use of perspective shifts between present tense ("As she walked") and past tense ("She stopped") without clear reasoning. The phrase "something dark made her come back to her senses" is confusing because we don't know what state she was in before. The ellipsis followed by "wait what?" disrupts the flow unnecessarily.

# Exemplar: An odd chill in the early morning air gave her the sense that something bad was going to happen. A twitch of something dark caught her attention. She paused, curiosity and dread overwhelming her.

**#2**: Out of the blue, Helen's shadow stole her pencil and started to write words that could barely be eligible, but she could still read it. 'Your friend Leah is in danger, go to cafeteria'.

#### Strengths:

- Your choice to have the shadow communicate through writing is creative
- The revelation about Leah creates immediate tension

**Character Logic Gap**  $\rightarrow$  Your sentence contains a contradiction - if the words are "barely eligible" (which should be "legible"), how can Helen still read them clearly? The

missing article before "cafeteria" makes the sentence feel incomplete. There's also no explanation for why Helen's shadow suddenly knows about Leah's danger, creating a substantial plot hole.

Exemplar: Helen's shadow snatched her pencil and began scrawling barely legible words on her desk. Squinting, she made out: 'Your friend Leah is in danger. Go to the cafeteria now.'

**#3**: Her shadow gestured for her to take her friend and go. Taking signal, she grabbed Leah's arm and ran for the exit that seemed so far. She looked back, seeing her shadow begin to take out its best karate and kung fu moves. Helen chuckled, but still in gratitude for her brave fighting warrior, her shadow.

#### Strengths:

- Your action sequence maintains good pacing
- The characterisation of the shadow as a "brave fighting warrior" adds personality

**Emotional Disconnect**  $\rightarrow$  Your character's response to this life-threatening situation feels unrealistic. The phrase "Helen chuckled" while her friend has been injured and attacked seems inappropriate. The final sentence is grammatically awkward with "in gratitude" placed oddly, and the repetition of "her shadow" at the end disrupts the flow.

Exemplar: Her shadow gestured urgently - take Leah and run. Helen grabbed her friend's arm and bolted for the exit. Glancing back, she watched her shadow unleash martial arts moves on the attacker. Despite her fear, Helen felt a surge of gratitude for her unexpected protector.

## **Overall Comments**

Your piece demonstrates creativity in exploring an imaginative premise. However, the narrative would benefit from more consistent character development and clearer plot logic. Additionally, you should focus on making your character's reactions more believable - for instance, having picklock skills appear suddenly or laughing during a crisis undermines the tension you've built. Also, watch for typos like "eligible" instead of "legible" and "Helan" instead of "Helen." Your descriptive language creates atmosphere well, but try to maintain consistent verb tenses throughout your story. Consider developing the relationship between Helen and her shadow earlier to make their

cooperation feel more natural. Finally, ensure your dialogue flows smoothly within the narrative without disrupting the reading experience.

**Overall Score: 42/50** 

### **Section 2:**

CHIRP! CHIRP! CHIRP! As she walked the empty halls in the early morning, an odd chill in the air gave her the sense that something bad was going to happen. A twitch of something dark made her come back to her senses. She walked on in the coldness that surrounded ... wait what? She stopped, curiosity and dread overwhelming her. 'Did my shadow just move?' she whispered to herself. In mere curiosity, she spun around, and her jaw dropped at the sight of, of what?

Helen's shadow was dancing around cheerily, with absolutely no sense of what was happening. Then, the worst came, people came rushing out of their dorms for 'Early wake time'- [.'] She couldn't just hold her breath, she HAD to get rid of this [—] this [] this [] what do you even call it? 'Stop dancing, people are going to think I'm weird[Stop dancing. People are going to think I'm weird,]' she breathed with a hint of violence at her wild shadow. The shadow immediately stiffened and then stuck out her tongue and began dancing AGAIN. Everyone around stared at her in shock.

#2 In maths class, her surrounding classmates were murmuring furiously about what had happened at [in] the halls. Out of the blue, Helen's shadow stole her pencil and started to write words that could barely be eligible [legible], but she could still read it. 'Your friend Leah is in danger [.] g[G]o to eafeteria [the cafeteria]'. She stopped breathing, unable to think. However, her shadow was right. Helen [Helen] hadn't seen Leah this whole morning. 'umm... miss? [Umm... Miss?] e[C]an I please go to the bathroom?' she said in pure desperation in hope of [, hoping to] escaping [escape] class. 'If you have to, then yes [,'] her teacher sighed as she continued to finish the lesson. 'Come on [] shadow [] and let's go save my bestie!' she smiled at it, and for the first time, she felt grateful for it.

Helen ran, faster than ever, with her shadow huffing and puffing and hardly able to catch up behind her. She stopped to [] a halt [] as they reached the front doors of the cafeteria [.] t[T]hey were closed as usual. Her mind raced, searching for answers. DING! Helen

quickly pulled a picklock out of her pocket and scrambled to aggressively [aggressively] pick at [] the lock. CLICK! It was unlocked [.] s[S] he rushed in, only to pause at the sight of fresh blood ; [] pouring from beneath the kitchen door. Hesitantly, she opened it.

Inside, Leah was whimpering, and a mysterious hooded figure was standing above her, a knife only inches away from her throat. She didn't know what to do [--] no [nothing] nothing. She stared in shock as fresh drops of blood spilled out of [from] Leah's skin [] and yet [] Helen was rooted to the cold, marble ground. All of a sudden, her shadow rapidly knocked the man to the ground with a kick. She began to breathe again [] but it wasn't over [] not yet. Her shadow gestured for her to take her friend and go. Taking signal [the signal], she grabbed Leah's arm and ran for the exit that seemed so far. She looked back, seeing her shadow begin to take out its best karate and kung fu moves. Helen chuckled, but still in gratitude for her brave fighting warrior, her shadow.