

## Writing Feedback

**TERM 2 | WEEK 2 WRITING | 12th May | Y5 SCHOLARSHIP**

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#1 Strengths: Your vivid sensory descriptions in the opening paragraph effectively establish the forest setting. The simile "crunched under my boots, almost as loud as paper being scrunched" creates a clear auditory image.

Weakness: Repetitive word choice → In your opening lines, you use "large" twice in close proximity: "Large oak trees towered over me, their large branches creating an archway." This repetition weakens the impact of your descriptive language and misses an opportunity to provide more varied and specific details about the forest environment. Using different adjectives would enrich your vocabulary and create a more vibrant picture.

Exemplar: *Large oak trees towered over me, their sprawling branches creating an archway that shaded me from the bright, but not scorching, rays of the Sun.*

#2 Strengths: Your transition from the forest to the mysterious building creates intrigue and suspense. The personification of the building with walls that "seemed to mumble" adds an eerie quality to the scene.

Weakness: Underdeveloped transition → The shift from discovering the building to suddenly being inside the library happens too abruptly: "Suddenly, I glimpsed a deteriorated building out of the corner of my eye... All of a sudden, I was sucked in by a gravitational pull stronger than Earth's." This rapid transition doesn't allow readers to fully experience the protagonist's reaction to the building or the process of entering it. Adding details about approaching the building and the character's feelings would make this transition more believable.

Exemplar: *As I approached the deteriorated building, my curiosity overcame my caution. The door creaked open at my touch, and before I could step back, I felt myself being sucked in by a gravitational pull stronger than Earth's.*

#3 Strengths: The dialogue between the character and the mysterious voice creates tension and reveals your protagonist's personality. The conflict with the closing walls provides exciting action in the narrative.

Weakness: Undeveloped resolution → The ending "But I know that it won't, not in a million years" feels abrupt and doesn't provide enough closure or explanation. After the

intense confrontation with the library, readers are left wondering about the significance of this encounter and what happens next. The ending would be stronger with a clearer resolution or hint about the meaning of this strange experience.

Exemplar: *"I'll get you next time," the library yells. But as I clutch the leather-bound book that had saved me, I discover a glowing symbol on its cover that seems strangely familiar. Perhaps this wasn't a random encounter after all, but the beginning of something much bigger.*

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■ Your piece has a strong foundation with vivid descriptions and an interesting magical library setting. To improve the substance, focus on developing a clearer purpose for the character's journey into the library. What is the significance of this encounter? Also, consider deepening the character's emotional responses throughout the story. How do they feel when they first see the building? What thoughts run through their mind when the walls begin closing in? Additionally, the mysterious voice needs more development—perhaps giving hints about its identity or purpose would add depth to the confrontation.

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**Overall score: 40/50**

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Section 2:

Large oak trees towered over me, their ~~large~~ [sprawling] branches creating an archway that shaded me from the bright, but not scorching, rays of the Sun. Birds whistled in the soft, cool breeze that tickled my skin like a feather. Crisp Autumn leaves crunched under my boots, almost as loud as paper being scrunched. Sighing, I took in the magical air of this forest. #1

Suddenly, I glimpsed a deteriorated building out of the corner of my eye. Cracked and covered in moss, its walls seemed to mumble as I ambled closer to it. #2 ~~All of a sudden~~ [Without warning], I was sucked in by a gravitational pull stronger than Earth's. Aisles of towering bookshelves stretched out so vast that I couldn't see where they ended. Rows and rows of books ~~burst~~ [burst] into my eyes as I was engulfed in the diverse range of

stories. The scent of century old paper wafted up my nostrils, giving the sense of a dilapidated building.

"So I see you have chosen death, child," whispered a voice through the cracked walls.

"I'm not a child, I'm 17!" I continue, "and no, I have not chosen death!," I ~~scream~~ [screamed], so loud that my throat ~~feels~~ [felt] dry and ~~stings~~ [stung].

"We will see about that," grumbles the walls, much stronger and more confident than before. BOOM! Walls all around start closing in on me, threatening to crush me to death. I frantically search for anything to help me.

"AHA!" I whisper loudly. Grasping onto leather bound and hard copy books, I start hurling and flinging them in every direction, until the walls ~~cease-crushing~~ [ceased crushing] me, just metres away from killing me.

"ARGH!" It continues. #3 "I'll get you next time," the library yells. But I know that it won't, not in a million years.