

## Writing Feedback

**TERM 2 | WEEK 4 WRITING | 25th May | Y5 SCHOLARSHIP**

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**#1** (First paragraph - Lavender climbing the tree) Strengths: Your vivid sensory details like "sticky and clammy from perspiration" and "shallow breaths tickled the rough, new bark" help readers feel present in the scene. The personification of the tree creates an emotional connection.

Weakness: Awkward phrasing → Several sentences feel clunky and interrupt the flow. "Her shallow breaths tickled the rough, new bark on my trunk as she climbed up into the seat I had grown for her" contains too many descriptive elements crammed together, making it hard to follow.

Exemplar: *"Her gentle breaths warmed my rough bark as she settled into the special seat I had grown just for her."*

**#2** (Middle section about Industrial Revolution) Strengths: Your metaphor of calling humans "monsters" effectively shows the tree's perspective on deforestation. The phrase "silent screams echo through the few remaining trees" creates a haunting image.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence structure → Many sentences follow the same pattern, making the writing feel monotonous. "Each day the Sun rose to nurture me, monsters disguised as humans stomped through our branches" and "Day by day, month by month, year by year" show this repetition.

Exemplar: *"While the sun continued to nurture me each morning, destructive humans trampled through our forest, crushing everything in their path."*

**#3** (Lucy Kerr section) Strengths: Your detailed comparison between Lavender and Lucy shows how times have changed. The contrast between past family connections and modern disconnection is clear.

Weakness: Unclear meaning → The phrase "strange rectangular thing" doesn't help readers understand what Lucy was holding, and "absolutely no social awareness" is confusing in this context.

Exemplar: *"Lucy walked past me, staring at her mobile phone, completely unaware of the family tree that had watched over generations before her."*

■ Your piece shows creativity in choosing an unusual narrator and tackles important themes about family traditions and environmental destruction. The story arc from connection to loss works well. However, you could strengthen your writing by focusing on clearer sentence construction and more specific descriptions. Additionally, consider developing the emotional impact of each generation's relationship with the tree more deeply. Also, work on varying your sentence beginnings to create better rhythm in your writing.

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## Section 2:

Sticky and clammy from perspiration, I felt Lavender's smooth, delicate hands grasp onto my young, ~~immatured~~ [immature] branches. ~~Her shallow breaths tickled the rough, new bark on my trunk as she climbed up into the seat I had grown for her.~~ [Her shallow breaths tickled my rough bark as she climbed into the seat I had grown for her.] Moulded out of thin branches and shaded from the harsh ~~Sun~~ [sun], this seat was secret and sacred, designed only for the Kerr family. #1

As Lavender grew older, her visits became less frequent, and when she came, she just lay beneath the canopy I grew for her, smiling up at me. However, one day, I ~~realized~~ [realised] a huge watermelon bulged out of Lavender's stomach. Tears welled up inside her huge eyes that danced softly, as she stroked my trunk as if I was a puppy. I knew that this was the last time I would see her, yet somehow, I knew that this was not the end, but the beginning of an adventure.

This same thing happened for many generations of the Kerr family, yet each time I was not deterred by a loss, but instead built a stronger drive. Wise and full of knowledge, I felt more confident as each generation passed this sacred spot down to the next. Each time a new child came, I felt the urge to hug them with my branches, ~~adore them in my lush green leaves~~ [and surround them with my lush green leaves].

However, as the generations passed, and humans went through the Industrial Revolution, I experienced harrowing situations. #2 ~~Each day the Sun rose to nurture me, monsters disguised as humans stomped through our branches, crushed insects.~~ [Each day, while the sun rose to nurture me, monsters disguised as humans stomped through our branches and

crushed insects.] Worst of all, they shredded my younger, less mature siblings. I was left every night to hear their silent screams echo through the few remaining trees.

Day by day, month by month, year by year, I saw the Kerr family less and less. Each day, more monsters would storm into my forest and use my brothers and sisters to build houses. They never gave any thanks to us [;] instead, they took more. It was as if they were inseparable from wood. One day, as the ~~Sun's~~ [sun's] rays pressed mercilessly on my trunk and the soft breeze tickled my bark, I noticed that a forest of trees no longer surrounded me, but a forest of houses.

100 years after Lavender Kerr climbed up my branches to sink into the seat I grew for her, I met Lucy Kerr. #3 She had the same silky, golden blonde hair as Lavender, the same bulging blue eyes, the same comforting smile that radiated warmth like hot chocolate on a frigid winter night, yet she grasped onto a ~~strange-rectangular-thing~~ [mobile phone]. Not taking a single glance up at me, Lucy strolled by with ~~absolutely no social awareness~~ [complete obliviousness to her surroundings]. How did humans evolve so quickly?

I soon broke the close ties I had with the Kerr family. As I grew to be 2 centuries old, I lost the will to live, the will to interact with humans. I only had the will to see my long lost family again.