

Writing Feedback

TERM 2 | WEEK 3 WRITING | 18th May | Y5 SCHOLARSHIP

#1 - Opening paragraph: "In the little town of Willow Creek, where the sun dipped low and painted the sky with shades of lavender and gold, there was a boy named Felix Sun, who was ten years old. Felix was a boy with eyes bright with curiosity and hair as wild as the wind. Felix was renowned for his sense of adventure, but today was unlike any other—like a storm brewing just beyond the horizon."

Strengths: Your opening creates a lovely setting with descriptive details about Willow Creek. You've established Felix as an adventurous character right from the start.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence structure → Your writing repeats "Felix was" in consecutive sentences, which makes the flow choppy. The phrase "Felix was a boy" appears twice in close proximity, and this repetition makes the introduction feel less smooth.

Exemplar: *Felix Sun, a ten-year-old boy with eyes bright with curiosity and hair as wild as the wind, lived in the little town of Willow Creek.*

#2 - Middle section: "Days turned into weeks of quests—sifting through cobwebbed basements and combing gardens overgrown with weeds—but each ended in no result or conclusions that sank their hearts like stones falling in water."

Strengths: You show the passage of time effectively and create a sense of their ongoing struggle. The imagery of "cobwebbed basements" helps readers visualise their search.

Weakness: Unclear meaning → The phrase "no result or conclusions that sank their hearts" is confusing because conclusions don't typically sink hearts. You seem to mean their failed attempts disappointed them, but the connection between "conclusions" and disappointment isn't clear.

Exemplar: *Each quest ended in disappointment, leaving them feeling deflated as their hopes gradually faded.*

#3 - Ending section: "With trembling hands but a heart of unshakeable courage (and maybe just a little pinch of magic), Felix inserted the last key into the lock. There was a soft click in otherwise still air before creaking open yielded neither treasure nor

charts—but memories: photographs of laughter-filled moments between generations gone by!"

Strengths: Your ending provides a meaningful discovery that connects to family bonds. You build suspense well with the key-turning moment.

Weakness: Sentence structure confusion → The phrase "before creaking open yielded neither treasure nor charts" has mixed-up word order that makes it hard to understand. The sentence structure breaks down and doesn't clearly show what action Felix performed.

Exemplar: *The trunk creaked open slowly, revealing neither treasure nor charts, but something far more precious—photographs capturing moments of joy shared between generations.*

■ Your piece tells an engaging story about friendship and discovery that many readers will enjoy. The central theme about finding family connections instead of treasure gives your narrative real meaning. Additionally, you've created believable characters in Felix and Mia who work well together. However, your writing would benefit from smoother sentence flow and clearer connections between ideas. Also, some parts need simpler sentence structures to help readers follow your story more easily. Focus on reading your sentences aloud to check if they sound natural and make sense.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 In the little town of Willow Creek, where the sun dipped low and painted the sky with shades of lavender and gold, there was a boy named Felix Sun, who was ten years old. ~~Felix was a boy~~ [Felix had] eyes bright with curiosity and hair as wild as the wind. Felix was renowned for his sense of adventure, but today was unlike any other—like a storm brewing just beyond the horizon.

It began on a cold autumn evening when Felix found an old, weathered trunk hidden beneath a pile of fallen leaves in the attic of his grandmother's house. The trunk was

adorned with intricate carvings of curled vines and glittering stars. It beckoned him closer, whispering secrets to him alone.

"Wow! What's inside?" he whispered to himself, his heart racing with excitement. But there was a problem: it had no key.

More determined than ever to uncover its secrets, Felix embarked on a quest around Willow Creek to find "the last key." Strolling along familiar streets now dotted with golden leaves, he bumped into his best friend Mia—a girl whose laughter was as melodious as bells and whose imagination was even wilder than his.

"Do you think it's treasure?" she asked, out of breath, as they sat on their favourite swing set in the park.

~~"Treasure! Or maybe ancient maps to secret worlds!"~~ ["Treasure! Or maybe ancient maps to secret worlds!"] Felix replied, eyes sparkling more than ever.

But inside, he felt a pang of doubt. What if it had absolutely nothing? The thought bothered him like a squirrel with an acorn, gnawing away.

They stopped first at Old Mr. Hargrove's curiosity shop—a maze of shelves crowded with treasures from past ages. Dust danced in sunbeams that came through broken windows as they tentatively pushed inside.

~~"Ah! Young adventurers!" Mr. Hargrove said from behind a stack of books piled hazardously high. "What can I do for you?"~~ ["Ah! Young adventurers!" Mr. Hargrove said from behind a stack of books piled hazardously high. "What can I do for you?"]

Felix retold their quest eagerly while Mr. Hargrove stroked his chin thoughtfully. ~~"Luck won't do; keys are usually where stories are told."~~ ["Keys are rarely found through luck alone; they're usually discovered where stories are told."] He handed them an ancient book filled with legends of forgotten places and lost treasures.

More determined than ever, they read each page under the big oak tree by the creek until night softly descended around them like a warm blanket.

~~#2 Days turned into weeks of quests sifting through cobwebbed basements and combing gardens overgrown with weeds but each ended in no result or conclusions that sank their hearts like stones falling in water.~~ [Days turned into weeks of

searching—sifting through cobwebbed basements and combing gardens overgrown with weeds—but each quest ended in failure, leaving them feeling disappointed.]

Just when hope was going to fade like twilight into night, Mia suggested visiting Mrs. Whittleton—the kindly librarian who seemed to know everything about everyone in Willow Creek.

As they entered her snug library sweetly scented with aged paper and ink, Mrs. Whittleton smiled knowingly, then led them to a hidden nook shelved with books on locks and keys of the past!

"There's something unusual about this key," she whispered after hearing ~~again~~ [once more about] their story—a glint appearing in her knowing eyes—"Keys tend to originate in unexpected places."

~~Moved by her words, Felix closed his eyes tight one evening while holding onto nothing but dreams until suddenly... chunk! Something solid fell from under his bed—a little bronze key shining in the moonlight!~~ [Inspired by her words, Felix searched his own room one evening. As he moved his bed to look underneath, something solid fell to the floor with a *chunk*—a little bronze key shining in the moonlight!]

His heart raced faster than ever before as he ran ~~upstairs~~ [downstairs] to meet Mia at the crack of dawn's first light—their adventure finally reaching its end! They hastened back to Grandma's attic where the cobwebs dangled overhead like tired spiders waking up to start another day's work.

#3 With trembling hands but a heart of unshakeable courage (and maybe just a little pinch of magic), Felix inserted the last key into the lock. ~~There was a soft click in otherwise still air before creaking open yielded neither treasure nor charts—but memories: photographs of laughter-filled moments between generations gone by!~~ [There was a soft click in the still air before the trunk creaked open, revealing neither treasure nor charts—but something far more precious: photographs of laughter-filled moments between generations gone by!]

~~Tears filled Felix's eyes as realisation washed over him; it wasn't gold or jewels they sought—it was connection—the warmth of family stories loved throughout the years!~~ [Tears filled Felix's eyes as realisation washed over him; it wasn't gold or jewels they had been seeking—it was connection and the warmth of family stories cherished throughout the years!]

And so together—with hearts aglow—they vowed never again would they search for something out there when all along what mattered most was right here—in every laugh echoing down halls filled rich with love forevermore.