

Section 1:

#1 "As the battered violin chimed with the pluck of its strings, wax dangled from the candle and the fluttering documents of paper stopped in the chaotic autumn wind. A moment that felt like decades approached Maria, her fingers spontaneously touched the floating papers and hovering leaves. Maria, an ordinary woman, like an ant in a cyclone."

Strengths: Your use of sensory details creates a vivid image of the frozen moment. The simile "like an ant in a cyclone" effectively conveys Maria's smallness against overwhelming forces.

Sentence structure inconsistency → Your opening paragraph contains sentence fragments that disrupt the flow. "A moment that felt like decades approached Maria" reads awkwardly as it doesn't clearly connect to what happens next. The sentences jump between different images without establishing a clear sequence or relationship between them.

A moment that seemed to stretch into decades enveloped Maria as her fingers reached out to touch the suspended papers and autumn leaves hovering in mid-air.

#2 "That moment when everything paused strikes, her computer stopped at the letter 'a'. Maria checked the cable connection and wondered around. Candle wax grasped onto the candle and a feather outside balancing vertically on the puddles like a ballerina."

Strengths: Your details about specific objects freezing (computer at letter 'a', candle wax, feather) create concrete images. The simile comparing the feather to a ballerina adds artistic quality.

Tense shifts → Your writing shifts between present tense ("strikes") and past tense ("stopped," "checked") without clear purpose. This makes it difficult for readers to follow the timeline of events. The sentence "Candle wax grasped onto the candle and a feather outside balancing vertically on the puddles like a ballerina" is grammatically incomplete.

That moment when everything paused struck her suddenly—her computer froze at the letter 'a'. Maria checked the cable connection and wandered around. Candle wax clung to the candle while a feather balanced vertically on the puddles outside, poised like a ballerina.

#3 "She trudged outside her room and swung the door behind her. Those clamorous noises began to fade away from her head to her ankle. Maria's hunched back straightened up, her frowning forehead flattened. Gradually, all ten fingers released the edge of her clothes."

Strengths: Your description of Maria's physical transformation effectively shows her emotional shift. The progression from tension to release is well-paced through physical details.

Unclear imagery → The description "noises began to fade away from her head to her ankle" creates a confusing image. It's unclear how noise fades in this specific physical pattern. The connection between the noise fading and her physical transformation isn't well established.

She trudged outside her room and swung the door behind her. As she moved, those overwhelming noises gradually faded from her mind, bringing relief to her entire body. Maria's hunched shoulders relaxed, her furrowed brow smoothed, and her tense fingers slowly released their grip on her clothes.

■ Your piece has strong emotional themes about music, family relationships, and personal transformation. The frozen moment serves as a clever device to show Maria's internal journey. However, you could strengthen the connection between the frozen world and Maria's emotional breakthrough. Try adding more about how Maria's feelings toward music changed during her childhood and what specifically triggers her realisation in the frozen moment. Additionally, the transition between the frozen moment and the reconciliation with her father feels rushed. Consider expanding on what Maria specifically remembers or realises that motivates her to visit her father. Also, focus on making your descriptions more consistent—when objects are frozen, keep them frozen until you deliberately show time resuming. Your story has heart and meaningful symbolism—with more clarity in the sequence of events and emotional progression, it will make an even stronger impact on readers.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

The frozen moment

As the battered violin chimed with the pluck of its strings, wax dangled from the candle and the fluttering documents of paper stopped in the chaotic autumn wind. A moment that felt like decades approached Maria, her fingers spontaneously touched the floating papers and hovering leaves. Maria, an ordinary woman, like an ant in a cyclone. The world's rowdy betrayal made her life unbearable, work, eat, sleep, work, eat and sleep. #1 ~~The time she was 8 years old, she couldn't wait to come home from school to demonstrate her elegant fingers and pluck the delicate strings of her violin.~~ [When she was 8 years old, she couldn't wait to come home from school to demonstrate her elegant fingers and pluck the delicate strings of her violin.] Every pluck accompanied with a harmonic tune like the gentle hum on a raining day. Her dad, on the other hand, does not understand the beauty behind it, how music could change someone's life in a positive way. ~~As Maria came home from school when she was 9 years old, she could only place her beloved violin in the corner of her room—smashed like every strained string in her heart ready to snap.~~ [When Maria came home from school at age 9, she found her beloved violin smashed and could only place it in the corner of her room—each broken string mirroring her own heart ready to snap.] From that day, music had been separated away from profound connections from Maria, with a bridge that stretches for miles.

#2 ~~That moment when everything paused strikes, her computer stopped at the letter 'a'.~~ [That moment when everything paused struck her—her computer stopped at the letter 'a'.] Maria checked the cable connection and ~~wondered~~ [wandered] around. Candle wax ~~grasped~~ [clung] onto the candle and a feather outside ~~balancing~~ [balanced] vertically on the puddles like a ballerina. The second hand suspended between ten past five and eleven past five. Despite her worries, she wasn't stressed- she admired. She admired the floating diamonds of red, gold and orange outside in the autumn chill. She admired the candles. She admired her still smashed violin. Maria opened her rusted windows in front of her desk to admire.

Maria meandered into her room as an ominous echo reverberated through the rambunctious yet empty room. Maria clutched onto the edge ~~for~~ [of] her shirt ~~her~~ [as her] head ached, she rocked back and forth and her tense fingers ~~drum~~ [drummed] against her desk. Cars honked on the highways, dad stared at her through the windows and chefs crashed saucepans. Repeated sound swiveled in her head as if the world no longer was frozen but ~~tumulted~~ [tumbled] until she felt sick.

#3 She trudged outside her room and swung the door behind her. Those clamorous noises began to fade away from her head to her ankle. Maria's hunched back straightened up, her frowning forehead flattened. Gradually, all ten fingers released the edge of her clothes. Suddenly, an echo returned within Maria like an injection. This was not like before, ~~there is~~ [there was] other sound. "I hear my favourite violin piece. I hear ecstatic laughter and chuckling. With Dad. My violin still has life to it, still colours and melody!" Maria exclaimed. As the windows reopened again, leaves ~~fall~~ [fell] onto the ground, the cars started to zoom.

She raced towards the living room and translucent drops of tears dotted at the corner of her eyes. The violin couldn't be fixed to its normal shape to play. ~~Although this is the truth, but there is something Maria could certainly change.~~ [Although this was the truth, there was something Maria could certainly change.] ~~Rapidly rapped~~ [She rapidly wrapped] a jacket around her shoulders and drove towards 66 Albert St. Ding! "Dad!" Maria shrieked. She could feel her body ~~slouched~~ [slumped] on dad's beige shirt. They just said nothing but embraced. They squeezed so tightly that no words needed to be said. Maria ~~amused~~ [admired] the world around her, the honking composers, the shouting alto and the dancing sopranos. She picked up her violin like gold. She realized, it was not merely the change of the violin ~~of~~ [or] the frozen moment. It was her time to realize that music never fades within us. Even in the most violent wind, the flame in our hearts of music would never be extinguished.