

Section 1:

#1 "The canteen was awake at 6:30 am, long before the first locker slams, laughter echoes through the corridor and the schools metal gates even open. The cooks moved in a fast and quiet way. The biting of the chilly morning breeze bundled them in hats, jackets and scarves in the -2 degrees weather."

Strengths:

- Excellent use of sensory language to establish the early morning setting
- Strong imagery that helps readers visualise the scene before school begins

Weakness: Punctuation inconsistency → Your sentences would benefit from more careful punctuation. For example, "the schools metal gates" needs an apostrophe to show possession (school's). Some sentences could be connected with commas to improve flow, particularly when listing similar items or actions.

Exemplar: *The canteen was awake at 6:30 am, long before the first locker slams, laughter echoing through the corridor, and the school's metal gates even opening.*

#2 "The aroma of hot dogs, burgers, fries, soda, pizza and cheesy mac and cheese made the air smell exactly like what a canteen should be like—warm, tasty, and alive. The scent was so aromatic, it makes your mouth water."

Strengths:

- Vivid description of food that engages multiple senses
- Good use of the dash to connect ideas about the canteen atmosphere

Weakness: Tense shifting → You switch between past tense ("made the air smell") and present tense ("makes your mouth water") in consecutive sentences. Keeping a consistent tense helps your reader stay engaged with your story without confusion.

Exemplar: *The scent was so aromatic, it made your mouth water as you stepped into the warm, lively space.*

#3 "In the menu, it said that the food is really good that you might want 1000000 of each dish. What's even more impressive? They serve high quality food for a low price like 50 cents to a dollar!"

Strengths:

- Enthusiastic tone that captures excitement about the canteen food
- Good use of a rhetorical question to engage readers

Weakness: Detail development → The description uses general statements rather than specific details that would make the menu more believable and interesting. The exaggeration ("1000000 of each dish") could be replaced with more realistic but still enthusiastic descriptions.

Exemplar: *The colourful menu proudly announced, "Our famous cheese toasties are so delicious you'll be coming back for seconds!" Even more impressive was their commitment to quality – freshly made sandwiches for just 50 cents to a dollar!*

■ Your piece creates a warm, inviting picture of a school canteen before the busy day begins. You've used lovely sensory details about the smells and sounds that make readers feel like they're right there in the kitchen. To improve the substance of your writing, try developing more specific details about the food preparation. What exactly are the cooks doing? Perhaps describe one cook flipping pancakes while another arranges fruit. Also, consider how you might build more of a story arc – maybe follow one particular dish from preparation to serving. The piece mentions ants taking food, which is an interesting detail, but this could be developed further by explaining how the cooks deal with this challenge. Additionally, think about introducing a human element – perhaps a particular cook who takes special pride in their work or has a signature dish the students love.

Overall score: 40/50

Section 2:

Long before the bell

The canteen was awake at 6:30 am, long before the first locker slams, laughter echoes through the corridor and the ~~schools~~ [school's] metal gates even open. The cooks moved in a fast and quiet way. The biting of the chilly morning breeze bundled them in hats, jackets and scarves in the -2 degrees weather. ~~The~~ [They] fought it by the steam of the delicious food in the air. The aroma of hot dogs, burgers, fries, soda, pizza and cheesy mac and cheese made the air smell exactly like what a canteen should be like—warm, tasty, and alive. The scent was so aromatic, ~~it makes~~ [it made] your mouth water. The pan sizzling near the fire kind of sounded like fireworks in New Year Eve. The sparks below the pan looked like shooting stars ~~Each~~ [each] making a silent wish. The tiled walls seemed smooth like the canteen ~~cooks cooking~~ [cooks' cooking]. It even had a colourful canteen menu with lots of different types of food.

In the menu, it said that the food is really good that you might want 1000000 of each dish. ~~What's~~ [What was] even more impressive? They serve high quality food for a low price like 50 cents to a dollar! Cute little creatures like ants came to join in eating the food. They sneakily take little munches of bread, cheese and sauces. That is exactly why some of the bread is munched up, or a little bit of your sauce has gone missing. Now you know who to blame. It's not just a canteen that prepares food. They do hard work, making the most delicious food ever. So, when the school gates creak open and footsteps

echo down the hallway, the canteen is already alive — a place where the day begins long before the gates open.