Term 3 - 2025: Week 1 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Selective RW

Section 1:

#1 - "The clouds rolled in upon each other, its hungry saliva raining down upon the huge leaves of trees. In response, the trees rustled, protesting, as drops of water sailed across the air."

Strengths: Your personification of the clouds as having "hungry saliva" creates vivid imagery that brings the storm to life. The response of the trees "protesting" adds to this living, breathing forest atmosphere.

Weakness: Pronoun disagreement \rightarrow The pronoun "its" doesn't match with "clouds" which is plural. When you write "The clouds rolled in upon each other, its hungry saliva," the pronoun should be "their" since clouds is plural. This creates confusion for readers about what you're referring to.

Exemplar: The clouds rolled in upon each other, their hungry saliva raining down upon the huge leaves of trees.

#2 - "The leaves stared at them, curious of why such beings would be in their home. They whispered to each other, gossiping about Alder and Sequoia."

Strengths: Your personification of the leaves as gossiping characters adds personality to the forest setting. The word choice "gossiping" is particularly effective in making the forest feel alive and social.

Weakness: Awkward preposition use \rightarrow The phrase "curious of why" sounds unnatural in English. The correct preposition after "curious" should be "about" rather than "of". This makes the sentence flow more smoothly.

Exemplar: The leaves stared at them, curious about why such beings would be in their home.

#3 - "Together, Alder and Sequoia dashed towards the voice, shoving and tearing plants heedless of the rage of the plants."

Strengths: Your action sequence creates urgency and movement that propels the story forward effectively. The description of the characters acting "heedless of the rage of the plants" maintains the personification theme.

Weakness: Repetitive word choice → You use the word "plants" twice in the same sentence, which creates unnecessary repetition. This makes the sentence sound clunky and less polished than it could be.

Exemplar: Together, Alder and Sequoia dashed towards the voice, shoving and tearing vegetation heedless of the forest's rage.

■ Your piece demonstrates strong creative imagination through consistent personification of nature elements, which creates an engaging fantasy atmosphere. The storm setting and lost children scenario provides good conflict that drives your narrative forward. However, your writing would benefit from more varied sentence structures to create better rhythm and flow. Additionally, you could develop your characters' emotions more deeply - we know Alder is scared and relieved, but showing these feelings through actions or thoughts would strengthen reader connection. Also, your dialogue feels natural and realistic, particularly Hawthorn's frustrated shouting. To improve the content further, consider adding more sensory details beyond sight and sound, such as smells or textures of the rainforest. Your ending builds good tension with Ms Belladonna's approach, but you could expand on the consequences the characters face to create a more satisfying conclusion.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 The clouds rolled in upon each other, its [their] hungry saliva raining down upon the huge leaves of trees. In response, the trees rustled, protesting, as drops of water sailed across the air. Lost in the forest, Alder shivered in his drenched clothes. His class had left him behind while looking for the required berries. A distinct memory of Ms Belladonna hollering at Hawthorn lingered in Alder's mind, dancing and mingling with the dark storm clouds. The rainforest seemed to cackle mockingly as Alder continued creeping along. 'Where are we?' hissed a voice behind Alder, making him jump. He sighed with relief when he realized [realised] it was Sequoia. #2 The leaves stared at them, eurious of why [curious about why] such beings would be in their home. They whispered to each other, gossiping about Alder and Sequoia. The clouds watched on, high-headed and regal at their authority in the sky. Vines draped from branches, mischeviously [mischievously] veiling any exits like tightly-closed curtains.

Alder and Sequoia moved along, wary of their curious surroundings. Occasionally, a vine or two would reach out and make a grab at them, before swinging back into the forest. A tree arched its magnificent back, shimmering with raindrops. Next to it, another tree groaned creakily at the howling wind that sweeped [swept] its humid cloak around the forest. A bromeliad sighed as a tiny pool slipped into its green, leafy cup. Suddenly, a call echoed through the rainforest, disturbing the plants. They rustled, irritated at the call that interuppted [interrupted] their damp

peace. The call came again, this time more clear against the furious storm. 'ALDER! SEQUOIA! WHERE THE HELL ARE YOU?!?!' 'Ugh,' grumbled Sequoia, 'I don't think Hawthorn needs to yell that loud.' #3 Together, Alder and Sequoia dashed towards the voice, shoving and tearing plants heedless of the rage of the plants [shoving and tearing vegetation heedless of the forest's rage]. A branch whipped at their faces as they ran, shoving a faceful of angry leaves in their faces. They shoved it off, running until – CRASH! 'Ow ow ow...' groaned Hawthorn. 'Sorry,' apologized [apologised] Sequoia and Alder. Ms Belladonna began running towards them, a look of fury on her face. An enraged hawthorn swiped at them, coincidentally whacking Hawthorn. Sequoia and Alder glanced at each other as the sleepy sun emerged, lazily sweeping clouds away. They were about to be in big trouble!