Term 3 - 2025: Week 1 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

Section 1:

#1 - Opening storm sequence and crowd reaction

Strengths: Your vivid imagery creates a powerful scene with phrases like "churning vat" and "malicious black clouds." The progression from calm to chaos effectively builds tension.

Weakness: Unclear metaphor construction \rightarrow Your opening combines mixed metaphors that confuse rather than clarify the scene. The phrase "Like a churning vat, a storm had brewed up inside the crowds" suggests the storm is within the people, but then you describe actual weather attacking them. This creates confusion about whether you're describing emotional turmoil or physical weather.

Exemplar: Like a churning vat of emotions, panic spread through the crowd as malicious black clouds gathered overhead.

#2 - Zeus's characterisation and Mount Olympus scene

Strengths: You effectively show Zeus's internal struggle through his flickering between modern and ancient forms. The contrast between his outward calm and inner turmoil works well.

Weakness: Inconsistent dialogue tags and character voice → Your dialogue attribution becomes muddled, particularly with "Zeus agreed, 'Morpheus, tell a hero in a dream.'" The character voices don't feel distinct enough - Zeus sounds too casual for his portrayed power, whilst other gods lack individual personality.

Exemplar: "Summon a hero through dreams, Morpheus," Zeus commanded, his voice rumbling with divine authority.

#3 - Percy and Annabeth reunion and quest setup

Strengths: The familiar banter between Percy and Annabeth captures their established relationship nicely. Your ending ties together the themes effectively.

Weakness: Rushed plot development \rightarrow Your story jumps too quickly from problem identification to solution without proper development. The leap from "Nyx is the threat" to "we'll handle this quest" happens in just a few sentences, making the resolution feel unearned and simplistic.

Exemplar: Annabeth paused, considering the implications. "If Nyx truly threatens Olympus, we'll need more than just the three of us. This quest will require careful planning."

■ Your fanfiction demonstrates solid understanding of the Percy Jackson universe and captures the characters' voices reasonably well. However, your story would benefit from slower pacing to allow plot developments to feel more natural. The conflict resolution happens too quickly, making the threat seem less serious than intended. Additionally, work on making your descriptive passages clearer by avoiding mixed metaphors that confuse readers. Your dialogue needs more distinct character voices - each god should sound different from the others. Also, consider developing the middle section more thoroughly, as the Mount Olympus scene feels rushed compared to your stronger opening. Finally, the connection between scenes could be smoother with better transitions that help readers follow the story's progression more easily.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 United: A Percy Jackson Fanfic The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. Like a churning

vat, a storm had brewed up inside the erowds [Like a churning vat of panic, emotions brewed within the crowd as a storm gathered overhead], and malicious black clouds poised to begin the storm [tempest]. With the first beat of thunder came the force of the strongest hurricane, the mightiest torrent of rain, and a surge of booming thunder and lightning that struck down more than a few structures, and even hit some people.

With the ambush of a sudden storm, people panicked. Some collapsed on the ground, crying. Others responded by [with] aggression. A tiny percent [percentage] of people kept their heads on [clear], and ran for their cars. But everyone soon began to realise the sense in going for their cars. Slipping and sliding, everyone dashed for any vehicle, a bike, a car, booking taxis or buses if the roads were blocked.

They left cars, valuables, money, anything behind in their haste to get away from the storm. In a matter of hours, Times Square was utterly deserted. It would have made a wonderful photograph at that time of year, when Times Square was flooded with tourists.

But there was only one person there. And he had no intention of taking a photo.

"What do you want, Zeus?" he murmured, staring up at the raging skies.

#2 On Mount Olympus, the situation was grave. The gods were seated calmly, but internally they were probably screaming something like: 'Zeus has gone CRAZY!'

After all, it had been many, many eras before [since] he'd shown power like this.

Zeus himself was flickering between his usual form- a formal business suit that gave the Zeus vibe of 'Worship me or die'- and a man in a Greek toga, radiating power. Even when Zeus was keeping himself under control, Mount Olympus shook with sheer force.

He paced the room, murmuring to himself. On Earth, the disaster level had hit a new record. At least according to the humans. When Zeus overthrew his father, Kronos, he'd shown slightly more power. But only just.

Zeus sighed, and looked up. His usually sky-blue eyes were dark with the colours of sullen storm clouds, and thunderstorms. Hera took this as an opportunity to calm Zeus down.

"My lord-"

Zeus raised a hand up [raised his hand] to silence her. "I know what you're going to say. And what you are thinking."

"I have lost sight of our true goal. Athena, any wisdom for the council?"

The gods were shocked for a minute. Could Zeus have admitted his mistake. [?]

Athena stood up. "I recall when we were in a similar situation occurred ["I recall when a similar situation occurred]. The Second Titan War? We relied on heroes to carry us across the line."

Apollo cleared his throat. "Heroes save the day. Could it help with this problem? Apollo says yes."

The other gods groaned. Clearly, they had seen enough of his haikus.

"Well, it is settled. We shall hire a hero," Zeus agreed, "Morpheus, tell a hero in a dream." ["Very well, it is settled. We shall employ a hero," Zeus declared. "Morpheus, reach out to a hero through dreams."]

"I already ha..." yawned Morpheus, before dropping back into slumber [Morpheus began to respond but yawned mid-sentence before dropping back into slumber]. An astral figure appeared next to Annabeth, of Morpheus [taking Morpheus's form].

"Well, dear. What are you going to do?" asked the spectral figure, [.] "You are awakened by another. Remember the night is an illusion, but the things in it are not."

#3 "Annabeth!"

Annabeth heard the voice long before she realised who it was.

"Seaweed Brain!"

Percy practically bounded over to her. "Nice to see you, Wise Girl. I have bad news, [—] Zeus is angry. Like super angry."

"I know, but he's not the problem," Annabeth replied.

She remembered what Morpheus had told her. The night was not scary, [;] the things in it were. And who could shake up Zeus that much, [whilst being] and be a night person. [?]

"Nyx. She was kind of a lady of the Night, even more powerful than Kronos. If I were Zeus, I'd be scared too."

The sky rumbled in warning.

Percy frowned. "Kronos was hard enough. Now some ancient girly [goddess], more powerful."

Annabeth nudged him. "Or what we call a regular Friday in the demigod business."

Percy laughed.

"I know we'll be chosen for this quest. And Grover's on leave, so he can come too. Old times?"

Percy smiled back at her. "Just like old times."

Annabeth leaned back, and they watched the sunset. Night was coming. But they could face it. With the gods, demigods, everyone.

United. -Myra