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

Section 1:

#1 - "The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. Jaws dropped wide open as the crowd mumbled like a screechy flute. Pale goose bumps prickled across my skin while the lightning struck evilly like a raven."

Strengths: Your opening creates immediate atmosphere and uses sensory details effectively. The comparison "mumbled like a screechy flute" shows creative metaphorical thinking.

Weakness: Unclear imagery connections \rightarrow The comparison between lightning and a raven doesn't help readers visualise the scene clearly. When you write "lightning struck evilly like a raven," it's difficult to understand how lightning resembles a raven's movement or appearance. The metaphor creates confusion rather than clarity.

Exemplar: The lightning struck fiercely, splitting the sky like a jagged blade.

#2 - "The storm was the only present sound swirling in my ears. My head would burst after the frequent alarming thunder, which strangely played videos about an envious beast. The lightning struck in just a blink of an eye, wanting to beat the speed of light."

Strengths: You attempt to show the storm's overwhelming effect on the character. The phrase "swirling in my ears" demonstrates good use of sensory language.

Weakness: Confusing personification \rightarrow The idea of thunder "playing videos about an envious beast" doesn't make logical sense within your story. This personification becomes too abstract for readers to follow, making it hard to understand what's actually happening in the scene.

Exemplar: The thunder roared repeatedly, each crash making my head throb with pain.

#3 - "I looked over my shoulder and felt a warm spirit grasp on my hand. She was gentle and was light blue like the vast ocean. Even with the notorious storm, the spirit almost seemed like she was pointing her mouth upwards."

Strengths: You introduce a new character that changes the story's direction. The colour description "light blue like the vast ocean" provides clear visual imagery.

Weakness: Awkward phrasing \rightarrow The sentence "she was pointing her mouth upwards" sounds unnatural and unclear. This phrase doesn't effectively communicate whether the spirit is smiling, speaking, or making another expression.

Exemplar: Even with the dangerous storm around us, the spirit seemed to be smiling peacefully.

■ Your piece demonstrates strong imagination and creative thinking about weather and supernatural elements. You've attempted to create a dramatic scene with emotional depth, showing how the character feels overwhelmed and then finds comfort. However, your writing would benefit from clearer imagery that helps readers picture exactly what's happening. Additionally, focus on making your personification more logical and easier to follow. When you give human qualities to non-human things like storms, ensure the comparisons make sense to your readers. Also, work on sentence structure to make your ideas flow more smoothly. Try reading your sentences aloud to check if they sound natural. Consider simplifying some of your more complex metaphors while keeping the creative spirit. Your story has a clear beginning, middle, and end, which shows good structural understanding.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. Jaws dropped wide open as the crowd mumbled like a screechy flute. Pale goose bumps prickled across my skin while the lightning struck evilly like a raven [fiercely across the dark sky]. I could feel the harsh heavy raindrops hitting my skin shouting, "You will never beat me!" I hid my face under [behind] the crowd, hoping the storm would go but the moon chuckled with an unnatural grin while putting a curse on my wish to disappear. Heads spun around the sky as if it was the ruler to be placed onto the throne. My furrowed eyebrows matched everyone else's. I bit my colourless [pale] lip while taunting visions swelled in my distraught mind. Our hearts ached when the stars contrasted under the untrusted blanket of the pitch black sky.

#2 Tears filled up my eyes even more than a tsunami could hold. The clouds turned into the shade of a black cat and the wind rustled passed [past] the wrinkled up leaves. The clouds seemed to have red menacing eyes while the rain flooded the battered pathway. The raindrops had long fingers reaching further than the street. Using all my might, I stared up at the villainous storm trying not to scream my lungs out. Lightning struck brighter than the Milky Way, almost making my eyes go blind. I placed my sweaty hand on my white face. "Oh please, please go away!" I yelled in my hand until it echoed back at me. The crowd stood with an eerie hush each time the thunder roared.

#3 The storm was the only present sound swirling in my ears. My head would burst after the frequent alarming thunder, which strangely played videos about an envious beast [which crashed repeatedly like an angry beast]. The lightning struck in just a blink of an eye, wanting to beat the speed of light. "Why would you even want to stop me? Why do you need to test me when you know I'll win?" The strom [The storm] wrote on the dull sky.

I slouched my head, pointing at the direction where insects scurried and hid under a fallen leaf. I could feel my body rip into pieces every time the storm played another of its spells. The strom [The storm] only got worse as if it was testing us on our bravery. The tumultuous thunder and lightning wanted power to take over the world. The lightning struck dazzlingly causing my heart to pump louder and my head swirl with trepidation. I looked over my shoulder and felt a warm spirit grasp on [hold of] my hand. She was gentle and was light blue like the vast ocean. Even with the notorious storm, the spirit almost seemed like she was pointing her mouth upwards [Despite the dangerous storm, the spirit appeared to be smiling peacefully].

The storm leisurely settled to a peaceful sprinkle of dancing raindrops. The moon glowed with written letters repeating, "peace is the way to bring harmony and needs to be maintained." The swift harsh wind paced slowly to a soft breeze. The crowd wondered [wandered with] their amused heads with thoughts, thoughts of the sudden disappearance of the iniquitous storm.