

Section 1:

#1 - Opening paragraph with the thunderstorm scene

Strengths: Your opening immediately creates tension and atmosphere with vivid sensory details like "booming like a giant's steps" and "drenching the crowd to the bone." You effectively use weather as a dramatic backdrop to set the mood for the entire piece.

Weakness: Unclear narrative flow → The transition from the storm beginning to the roof collapse happens too quickly without proper build-up. The phrase "Suddenly, a creak. Then, the roof came tumbling like an acrobat down" feels rushed and doesn't give readers enough time to understand what's happening or why the roof is collapsing.

Exemplar: *After minutes of relentless rain hammering the stadium roof, an ominous creaking sound began to echo above us. The metal framework groaned under the weight before sections of the roof began to buckle and fall.*

#2 - The escape sequence and discovery of destruction

Strengths: You create a strong sense of urgency with action verbs like "bolted" and "dashed." The description of the destroyed neighbourhood with "branches poked through their roofs" helps readers visualise the storm's impact.

Weakness: Confusing character motivation → Your character's decision to run towards the fallen oak tree instead of seeking safety doesn't make logical sense. The line "I bolted the 700 meters to where the fallen tree lay" seems odd when someone should be escaping danger, not running towards obstacles.

Exemplar: *Despite the chaos around me, I found myself drawn to the massive oak tree that had fallen across the road - the same tree where Sienna and I had spent countless afternoons climbing and playing.*

#3 - Hospital scene and career revelation

Strengths: The sensory details about the hospital environment work well, particularly "putrid smell of chemicals and medicine" and "snow white walls." Your ending connects the traumatic experience to a meaningful career choice.

Weakness: Emotional development lacks depth → The character's reaction to learning about their family's death feels too brief and surface-level. The phrase "then I started bawling" doesn't capture the complexity of such devastating news, and the jump to becoming a counsellor needs more emotional processing.

Exemplar: *The news hit me like another collapsing roof. I couldn't breathe, couldn't think - the reality that my parents and Sienna were gone forever seemed impossible to accept. In that moment, my entire world crumbled just like the stadium had.*

■ Your piece shows strong potential with its dramatic premise and clear narrative structure from disaster to recovery. The sensory descriptions throughout create vivid scenes that help readers feel present in the story. However, your writing would benefit from slowing down key emotional moments to let readers connect more deeply with your character's experience. The pacing moves too quickly through major events like the roof collapse and family loss, missing opportunities to explore your character's internal thoughts and feelings. Additionally, some character decisions need clearer motivation - readers should understand why your protagonist makes certain choices during the crisis. Also, consider adding more details about how the traumatic experience specifically led to the career choice, as this connection could strengthen your story's message. Furthermore, the emotional journey from survivor's guilt to helping others deserves more development to make the transformation feel authentic and complete.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. Booming like a giant's steps, the frightening sound echoed through the football stadium, rippling through the grandstands with a chilling rumble. Deluges of rain started pouring down in sheets, drenching the crowd to the bone.

Glancing nervously at the pale faces around me, I gripped my soaked Gucci handbag, preparing to sprint away from everyone I knew ~~any second~~[at any moment]. ~~Suddenly, a creak. Then, the roof came tumbling like an acrobat down~~[After several minutes of relentless downpour, an ominous creaking sound emerged from above. The stadium roof, unable to withstand the pressure, began to collapse in sections]. Immediately, I knocked everything in my sight away. My auburn brown hair slashed at other ~~spectator's~~[spectators'] faces, trailing behind me, flying in the wind as I dashed away from my parents, my sister who was nine ~~six years junior to me~~[six years younger than me], and the stadium where I trained and marvelled at my idols every day ~~of the week~~.

#2 Racing through the stadium gates and out onto a deserted street, I noticed that everything was wrong. Houses, or what remained of them, had branches poked through their roofs, windows smashed and cracked, and dried crimson splattered across their walls. Glancing at the road ahead of me, I noticed the colossal oak tree ~~my sister Sienna and I used to climb~~[that my sister Sienna and I used to climb] blocking my path.

Instinctively, I bolted the 700 ~~meters~~[metres] to where the fallen tree lay. I brushed the wood like a pet dog, feeling the rough edges on my palm. The sprint had been exhausting, but the childhood memories were refreshing, until my chest tightened and each breath became more shallow and more difficult. My vision began to blur until... black.

#3 The putrid smell of chemicals and medicine wafted up my nostrils, filling my mind with the disgusting scent. My eyes immediately snapped open, and I was blinded by the bright lights and snow white walls. "Oh gosh," I whispered, "I'm in a hospital." As soon as I regained consciousness, I asked the nurse next to me where my family was. The smile on her face ~~as warm as hot chocolate on a frigid summer night~~[as warm as a mother's embrace], immediately faded away. "They... they... like many others, didn't make it," she stuttered. Tears welled up in my eyes, sliding down my cheeks and onto my chin ~~then I started bawling~~[before overwhelming grief consumed me entirely].

I work as a ~~counselor~~[counsellor] for a living now, helping those who lost loved ones in tragic accidents, especially in the 2019 storm. Sometimes, I wish I had been less selfish and assisted others in evacuating the stadium ~~yet~~[but] on other days, I ~~knew~~[know] there was absolutely nothing I could do.