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

Section 1:

#1 "The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd, catching the attention of a million eyes. Dark clouds rolled into the sight of the stadium like a wave, clouds toppling over each other."

Strengths: Your opening creates immediate tension and uses vivid imagery with "clouds toppling over each other." The simile comparing clouds to a wave effectively shows movement.

Weakness: Repetitive phrasing → The word "clouds" appears twice in close succession, which makes the sentence feel clunky. Additionally, "rolled into the sight" is an awkward construction that disrupts the flow of your narrative.

Exemplar: Dark clouds swept across the stadium like a massive wave, each formation tumbling over the next.

#2 "Water dove for people, soaking jackets and hoodies. Ice cubes falling at a speed of one hundred miles per hour hit children and adults."

Strengths: You show the storm's intensity through specific details like soaked clothing and the precise speed measurement. The personification of water "diving" adds energy to the scene.

Weakness: Unclear scientific accuracy → Describing hail as "ice cubes" and stating a specific speed without context makes the description confusing rather than dramatic. The phrasing also lacks smooth transitions between ideas.

Exemplar: Torrential rain drenched the crowd whilst hailstones pelted down at dangerous speeds, striking both children and adults.

#3 "The Coach treated his team like sons and would save them at all costs. He ran towards them, neglecting the thought that he could die."

Strengths: You effectively establish the Coach's protective nature and his selfless dedication to his players. The emotional connection is clear and compelling.

Weakness: Abrupt character development \rightarrow The Coach's heroic qualities appear suddenly without proper build-up earlier in your piece. The phrase "neglecting the thought that he could die" feels disconnected from the previous action.

Exemplar: Having always treated his team like family, the Coach charged towards his players, pushing aside any concern for his own safety.

■ Your piece captures an exciting storm scene with strong visual elements and a clear hero in the Coach character. The action moves quickly, which keeps readers engaged throughout the dangerous weather event. However, your writing would benefit from smoother transitions between paragraphs and more consistent character development. Additionally, some sentences need restructuring to improve clarity and flow. Focus on connecting your ideas more naturally for instance, introduce the Coach's caring nature earlier so his heroic actions feel more believable. Also, work on varying your sentence lengths to create better rhythm in your storytelling. Consider showing the storm's progression more gradually rather than jumping between different dramatic moments. Your vocabulary choices are generally strong, but ensure technical details like weather descriptions remain clear and believable for your readers.

Score: 43/50

Section 2:

#1 The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd, catching the attention of a million eyes. Dark clouds rolled into the sight of [swept across] the stadium like a wave, elouds toppling [each formation tumbling] over each other [the next].

People gathered around at [in] the centre of the stadium, staring at the storm with mouths gaping in awe.

Their eyes were filled with curiosity until the first hints of concern spread across their faces and people backed away slowly. However, some people gazed at the clouds, paralysed in shock. A man covered the eyes of a child, still imitating the sound of a car and holding a small truck.

The crowd went silent as if the world had stopped spinning. Players stood with their team, asking the coach questions with concerned expressions [on their faces.]

Out of nowhere, a strike of lightning hit the ground beside a girl, shooting dust and grass towards her yellow-coloured t-shirt. A woman screamed "Grab the children!", and dashed towards her own, a child crying in the pram.

The Coach came, shouting at the people and guiding them towards safety.

Then, hail came.

#2 Water dove for people [Torrential rain drenched the crowd], soaking jackets and hoodies. Iee eubes falling at a speed of one hundred miles per hour hit [Hailstones pelted down at dangerous

speeds, striking] children and adults. The crisp crack of the ice breaking on the head of a girl followed by sobbing was all the Coach could take.

He ran for the girl at the heart of the soccer [football] field like a cheetah, his legs kicking off the ground in a dash.

The Coach sprinted for the child, swiping her away, just in time to miss a lightning strike.

Wiping away sweat, he went for the elderly woman wobbling towards the exit, panting and gasping for air. The Coach led her away from danger, guiding her through the field.

He knew that this stadium was a monument to decay, and he didn't deny it.

#3 The man went for his pupils, running as fast as he could. The Coach treated his team like sons and would save them at all costs. He ran towards them, neglecting the thought that he could die. [Having always treated his team like family, the Coach charged towards his players, pushing aside any concern for his own safety.]

Suddenly, the voice of a man pierced through the atmosphere, a familiar voice.

It was the sound of Ben, the best player in the team—. the— [, who was the] tape of the group.

The thought of losing a pupil was heartbreaking, like a knife piercing a heart, but the Coach didn't give up saving the team.

He told them to run towards shelter and go home, and that the game was cancelled due to the storm, and he was off. The Coach guided them and zipped through the air.

He had survived the worst storm in history.