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

Section 1:

#1 "The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. People's mouths stopped mid cheer. Eyes widened as another tumultuous thunder illuminated the night sky like a lamp lighting up a room."

Strengths: Your opening creates immediate atmosphere and tension. The short, punchy sentences build excitement effectively.

Weakness: Unclear descriptions \rightarrow Thunder doesn't illuminate - lightning does. The phrase "tumultuous thunder illuminated" mixes up these weather elements, which confuses readers about what's actually happening in the sky.

Exemplar: "Eyes widened as brilliant lightning illuminated the night sky like a lamp lighting up a room."

#2 "Sophie stood there as the chaos unfolded. Her great grandpa always told her to stay calm in such situations before he died. Then something hit her. The person must be in the speaker room as you only access the loud speakers if you are in there."

Strengths: You show Sophie's logical thinking process well. The connection to her grandfather adds personal depth to her character.

Weakness: Abrupt transitions \rightarrow The sentences jump from one idea to another without smooth connections. "Then something hit her" appears suddenly, and the reasoning about the speaker room needs clearer explanation of how she figured this out.

Exemplar: "As Sophie stood watching the chaos, she remembered her great grandfather's advice to stay calm. Suddenly, she realised something important - the voice had to be coming from the speaker room, since that's the only place someone could control the stadium's sound system."

#3 "She used her teeth to latch around the necklace and she ripped the necklace off his neck. The man stopped resisting. His hands crumbled as he stared at Sophie with wild eyes. Soon he was nothing but a pile of dust."

Strengths: The climactic action moves quickly and creates a clear turning point. The magical transformation is vivid and decisive.

Weakness: Awkward action sequence → Using teeth to grab a necklace during a fight seems unrealistic and difficult to picture. The sentence structure with "and she ripped" creates choppy rhythm instead of smooth action flow.

Exemplar: "Sophie grabbed the strange necklace and yanked it from his neck with all her strength."

■ Your story has an engaging supernatural mystery with clear good versus evil conflict. Sophie emerges as a brave protagonist who uses both her grandfather's wisdom and quick thinking to solve the crisis. However, your narrative would benefit from smoother connections between ideas and clearer descriptions of action sequences. Additionally, some technical details need attention - thunder and lightning work differently in storms. To strengthen your writing, focus on making each paragraph flow naturally into the next one. Also, when describing magical or action scenes, ensure readers can easily visualise what's happening. Consider adding more details about how Sophie figured out the speaker room connection, as this shows her intelligence. Your ending resolves the conflict well, but the middle section where Sophie confronts Ronald could use more tension and clearer fight choreography.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. People's mouths stopped mid cheer. Eyes widened as another tumultuous thunder illuminated [brilliant lightning illuminated] the night sky like a lamp lighting up a room. The players on the match stopped and stared. It was as if someone flicked a switch to turn time off. Someone screamed as a serpent-like thing formed in the ball lightning. A petrifying laughter echoed off the stadium walls. Sophie watched [watched] the star player's face turn ghostly white.

"Remember me? Ronald Melaine [McLaine]?" shrieked the voice, "The person who you versed [faced] one day and that same day, took my fans away?"

The crowd turned and stared at the star player whose face contorted from a smug smile to a terror stricken [stricken] expression.

"You know Ronald. I soon went flat broke and started to seek revenge. Since you robbed me of my fans and supporters, I will rob you and your fan's lives!" cackled the voice.

#2 Panic washed over the crowd like a tidal wave. People scrambled for the exit as the serpent descended. Mysteriously, the doors were locked. People were shrieking. Babies were crying. Kids were wailing for their parents. Players ran for cover as the pharaonic serpent wreeked havoe [wreaked havoc]. Sophie stood there as the chaos unfolded. Her great grandpa always told her to stay calm in such situations before he died. Then something hit her. The person must be in the speaker room as you only access the loud speakers if you are in there. [Suddenly, she realised something important - the mysterious voice had to be coming from the speaker room, since that was the only place someone could control the stadium's sound system.] Sophie bolted towards the speaker room and opened the door to see a bedraggled man letting out a black hearted laugh through the speaker.

#3 His laughter died down as he spotted Sophie staring. The man pounced onto her like a dog with rabies and started scratching her—, but— [. However,] Sophie grabbed his arms to stop his attacks and spotted a strange necklace with a serpent squirming around inside. She used her teeth to latch around the necklace and she ripped the necklace off his neck. [Sophie grabbed the necklace and yanked it from his neck with all her strength.] The man stopped resisting. His hands crumbled as he stared at Sophie with wild eyes. Soon he was nothing but a pile of dust. Sophie smashed the necklace on the floor and the serpent disappeared in an instant [.] and [P]eople watched as the black clouds cleared out [away] and the sun smiled down at them [.] and [T]hey cheered and laughed as people started hugging each other with glee. Sophie had saved the day.