

Section 1:

#1 "One of our parents always yells, "It's time for dinner!" We all trudge out of our rooms like zombies. Once we all arrive at the dinner table, we dig into our meal. You can only enjoy serenity for 3 seconds before you hear my little brother criticising the meal in some random way, for example, Dad added some toppings that he despises and will bring him to his demise."

Strengths:

- Vivid imagery with the zombie comparison creates a clear mental picture
- Good use of sensory details that help readers experience the scene

Lack of specific dialogue → Your dialogue could be more specific to show your brother's personality. Instead of telling us he criticises "in some random way," you could include his exact words to make the scene more engaging and realistic. Specific dialogue would help readers connect with your brother's character and understand the family dynamics better.

"It's time for dinner!" Dad bellows from the kitchen. We trudge out of our rooms like zombies, collapsing into our chairs. Three seconds of peace pass before my little brother scrunches his nose. "Dad! You know I HATE capsicum! It's practically POISON!" he wails dramatically, pushing the offending vegetables to the edge of his plate.

#2 "My elder brother will then produce his iPhone 15 that he got a year ago for his 13th birthday, something that my parents dislike. With the iPhone, he can only take a few bites after every game he plays, so he finishes an hour after everybody else. This means my parents will have to wait for him to wash the dishes so we all have to stay."

Strengths:

- Clear cause-and-effect sequence showing how one action affects everyone
- Good detail about the specific phone model adds authenticity

Limited sensory details → Your description focuses mainly on actions but lacks sensory elements that would bring the scene to life. Adding details about sounds, expressions, or body language would create a more immersive experience. Readers would better understand how frustrating it is to wait for your brother if you described the atmosphere more vividly.

My elder brother slides his iPhone 15 from his pocket—the "birthday present that never leaves his hand," as Mum sighs—and props it against his water glass. His eyes dart between screen and plate, fork hovering midair whenever he reaches a crucial moment in his game. The rest of us fidget and

sigh loudly, knowing we're trapped at the table until he finishes both his meal and his dishwashing duty, which won't happen until his battery nearly dies.

#3 "As for me, I just curl up in my chair with a good book every dinner. I take a bite every few pages, but I still finish before my elder brother. I hardly notice the chaos, unless my elder brother groans furiously that he loses a game, or if my dad's chewing is breaking the silence. That is the chaotic dinner that we enjoy every day."

Strengths:

- Good character contrast showing how you differ from your family
- Effective closing that ties the piece together

Underdeveloped personal perspective → Your description of yourself feels brief compared to other family members. You mention reading but don't share your emotions or thoughts about the family dinner situation. Adding your internal reactions would create a more balanced and complete picture of your experience during these chaotic dinners.

As for me, I curl up in my chair with whatever fantasy novel I'm currently devouring, creating my own peaceful bubble amidst the chaos. I've mastered the art of one-handed eating—fork in left, book in right—turning pages with my pinky while barely lifting my eyes from the story. Sometimes I catch Mum's pleading glance, silently begging for an ally in her quest for proper table manners, but I just shrug and dive deeper into my book. After all, in this family, finding your own way to survive dinner is an essential skill.

■ Your piece has strong elements of humour and character descriptions that make it entertaining to read. The way you've captured each family member's quirks creates a vivid picture of your dinner table. However, you could strengthen your writing by adding more sensory details throughout—sounds, smells, and tactile elements would make readers feel like they're sitting at the table with you. Additionally, you might consider developing a clearer theme or insight about what these chaotic dinners reveal about your family relationships. Are these dinners actually enjoyable despite the chaos? Do they bring you together in unusual ways? Also, try varying your sentence structure more to create rhythm in your writing. Some short, punchy sentences mixed with longer descriptive ones would add variety and keep readers engaged. Your conclusion feels a bit abrupt—consider expanding it to share a final thought or feeling about these family dinners that leaves readers with something to think about.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Eating Dinner with my Family

Most families have a peaceful dinner, with some chatter about the day. They often enjoy their meal that goes only for a short time, generally 30 minutes at about 6 to 7 pm. However, my family is generally a complete chaos when it comes to eating dinner. We can have it anytime, from 5 to 8 pm and it is nearly always a mess.

#1 Dinner usually goes like this. One of our parents always yells, "It's time for dinner!" We all trudge out of our rooms like zombies. Once we all arrive at the dinner table, we dig into our meal. You can only enjoy serenity for 3 seconds before you hear my little brother criticising the meal in some random way, for example, Dad added some toppings that he despises and will bring him to his demise. The person who made the meal would ~~have~~ [then have] a 5 minute debate with him before we actually start eating.

#2 My elder brother will then produce his iPhone 15 that he got a year ago for his 13th birthday, something that my parents dislike. With the iPhone, he can only take a few bites after every game he plays, so he finishes an hour after everybody else. This means my parents will have to wait for him to wash the dishes so we all have to stay. The main thing that bothers us is the cries of frustration that he makes sometimes. ~~It sounds like nails on a blackboard, but we have adapted to listening to it.~~ [His wails sound like nails on a blackboard, though years of exposure have numbed us to the grating noise.]

My dad has a habit of wearing ~~iPods~~ [AirPods] at the dinner table so he has no idea that ~~me and mum~~ [Mum and I] are telling him that he is chewing his food too loudly. That is his other bad habit- eating too loudly and eating too much. He can usually consume a whole third of the food produced and he also has to pack some for his lunch for tomorrow.

My mum usually eats her dinner peacefully, but glares and ~~make~~ [makes] strange gestures ~~as~~ [at] us, as if trying to say that she wants us to have better table manners. No one notices her, though, and that only ~~starts~~ [starts causing] strange voices ~~omitting~~ [emitting] from her mouth.

#3 As for me, I just curl up in my chair with a good book every dinner. I take a bite every few pages, but I still finish before my elder brother. I hardly notice the chaos, unless my elder brother groans furiously ~~that~~ [when] he loses a game, or if my dad's chewing is breaking the silence. That is the chaotic dinner that we enjoy every day.