

Section 1:

#1 "You know how cowboys ride on horse's backs? Well, I'm doing the same thing right now, right here, except two things: I'm not a cowboy, and I'm riding on a crocodile, not a horse. How did I get here? Well, funny story because whenever you see a crocodile randomly roaming around the temptation to jump onto its back and send it crashing through the woods is completely irresistible."

Strengths: Your opening immediately captures attention with a relatable comparison to cowboys. Your conversational tone creates an engaging connection with readers.

Sentence structure → Your opening sentence is quite long and runs together multiple ideas. This makes it difficult for your reader to follow your exciting adventure. ***I'm not a cowboy—I'm riding a crocodile! How did I get here? Well, it's a funny story...***

#2 "Anyway, the crocodile that I am now on is flinging around wildly, because apparently whenever a 10-year-old kid hops on a 48-foot-predator, they feel a certain itchy sensation on their back that they just can't get off because of their scrawny little arms."

Strengths: Your humour comes through brilliantly here with the amusing image of the crocodile's "itchy sensation." You've included specific details about age and size that help readers visualise the scene.

Clarity of details → Some of your details could be more realistic to create a stronger mental picture for readers. A 48-foot crocodile is much larger than any real crocodile, which might confuse readers. ***When a 10-year-old kid hops on a 5-metre predator, they feel an itchy sensation they can't scratch off with their scrawny arms.***

#3 "I decided that the once-in-a-lifetime-experience should end for my own safety, and with immediate hesitation, I let go. Let me just say that that wasn't exactly my best choice. I did end up at the top of a redwood tree and after an hour, I'm still up here. Jeez, I wonder how long the fire engine takes to just come to a forest. It's only half an hour away from the city..."

Strengths: Your conclusion creates a humorous predicament that leaves readers wanting to know what happens next. Your final sentences effectively convey the character's frustration.

Word choice → Some phrases like "immediate hesitation" contradict each other and confuse the meaning. The ending feels a bit rushed compared to the detailed adventure. ***I decided this once-in-a-lifetime experience needed to end for my safety, so with great reluctance, I finally let go. That wasn't my smartest choice—I landed at the top of a redwood tree where I've been stuck for over an hour now.***

■ Your piece has a wonderful sense of adventure and humour that makes readers want to keep reading. The first-person narrative works well to bring readers into your exciting crocodile-riding experience. To improve the substance, you could add more sensory details about how it feels to ride the crocodile—the texture of its scales, the sounds it makes, or the smells of the forest. Also, you could strengthen the middle section by describing the crocodile's movements more precisely, like how it moves differently from a horse. Additionally, the ending could be expanded to give readers a more satisfying conclusion about how you eventually got down from the tree or what happened next. Try adding dialogue with rescuers or your thoughts while waiting to be rescued to add depth to your character.

score: 41/50

Section 2:

Riding a crocodile

You know how cowboys ride on ~~horse's~~ [horses'] backs? Well, I'm doing the same thing right now, right here, except ~~two~~ [for two] things: I'm not a cowboy, and I'm riding on a crocodile, not a horse. How did I get here? Well, funny story because whenever you see a crocodile randomly roaming around ~~the~~ [, the] temptation to jump onto its back and send it crashing through the woods is completely irresistible. Lucky for me, the one I found wasn't an aggressive one. In fact, he was a very calm and collected crocodile, at least as calm and collected as possible for a reptilian predator that can eat anacondas and sharks and sneaks upon the largest land animals of Earth.

#1 Anyway, the crocodile that I am now on is flinging around wildly, because apparently whenever a 10-year-old kid hops on a 48-foot-predator, they feel a certain itchy sensation on their back that they just can't get off because of their scrawny little arms. It was thrashing around and trying to launch me into the nearby bushes. However, this was a once-in-a-lifetime-experience, and I wanted to make it last as long as possible, so with every single cell in my body yelling at me to let go, I held on. The crocodile finally calmed down, and it was clear that it had given up trying to pry me off its back.

#2 But then the worst thing possible happened; ~~It~~ [it] saw a deer. Now, you probably know two things about crocodiles; ~~They're~~ [they're] stealthy, and they are also slow. Well, the first one is only true in water and the second is just plain nonsense. This crocodile ran at the deer so fast, if I hadn't been clinging on with all my strength, I would probably have ended up at the top of one of the massive redwood trees that surround the clearing that I currently was in. #3 I decided that the once-in-a-lifetime-experience should end for my own safety, and with ~~immediate~~ [immense] hesitation, I let go. Let me just say that that wasn't exactly my best choice. I did end up at the top of a redwood tree and after an hour, I'm still up here. Jeez, I wonder how long the fire engine takes to just come to a forest. It's only half an hour away from the city...