

Section 1:

#1 - "The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. Then, chaos began; everyone was shouting and panicking, trying to get to shelter. James froze, clear and vivid memories swirling in his mind like a hurricane."

Strengths: Your opening creates immediate tension and draws readers in with strong sensory details. The comparison of memories to a hurricane works well to show James's confused mental state.

Weakness: Abrupt scene transition → The jump from the crowd panicking to James's internal experience feels sudden. You haven't established where James is or why he's different from everyone else seeking shelter. The sentence "Then, chaos began" could be more specific about what type of chaos is happening.

Exemplar: *After the first crash of thunder silenced the crowd, people began shouting and scrambling towards the nearest shelters. But James remained frozen in place, clear and vivid memories swirling in his mind like a hurricane.*

#2 - "He looked down, at the thing that sat in his lap, a crystal pendant. He had found it on his bed the night before, glowing with power, and now, it was glowing even brighter."

Strengths: You build mystery effectively by introducing the pendant without explaining its origins. The detail about finding it on his bed adds intrigue to the story.

Weakness: Vague description → The phrase "glowing with power" doesn't help readers visualise what this actually looks like. What colour is the glow? How bright is it? The repetition of "glowing" in both sentences makes the writing feel repetitive rather than building intensity.

Exemplar: *He looked down at the crystal pendant resting in his lap—the same one he'd discovered on his bed the night before, pulsing with a soft blue light that now blazed like a tiny star.*

#3 - "Walking to the centre of the stadium, he jumped up as high as he could, trying to let the crystal take control. And it did."

Strengths: Your short sentence "And it did" creates dramatic impact and shows James's decision has immediate consequences. The action moves the plot forward quickly.

Weakness: Unclear motivation → You mention James wants his memories to become clear, but it's not obvious why jumping up would help achieve this goal. The connection between his actions and his reasoning needs to be stronger for readers to follow his logic.

Exemplar: *Walking to the centre of the stadium, he raised the pendant high above his head and leaped upwards, hoping the crystal's pull towards the storm would unlock the swirling memories in his mind.*

■ Your piece shows strong imaginative storytelling with an engaging fantasy premise that will capture readers' attention. The mysterious elements like the pendant and James's fragmented memories create good suspense throughout the narrative. However, your writing would benefit from clearer connections between James's thoughts and actions. Additionally, adding more specific sensory details would help readers visualise the scenes more vividly. Also, some transitions between ideas feel rushed—slowing down to explain James's reasoning would make his choices more believable. Furthermore, describing the storm and pendant with more precise details would strengthen the magical atmosphere you're creating. Consider expanding on how James feels physically during these supernatural events, as this would help readers connect with his experience. Your story has excellent potential, and focusing on these areas would make it even more compelling for your audience.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd. Then, chaos began; everyone was shouting and panicking, trying to get to shelter. James froze, clear and vivid memories swirling in his mind like a hurricane. The image of a sword, ~~shrivelled~~ [shrivelled] and decayed, flashed through his mind, and then it was gone. Another one, **appeared:** a temple as bright as the sun, **that stood and** on the tallest mountain peak **ever he had ever seen**. Overhead, the storm raged on, slowly morphing into the shape of a circle, leaving a clear space in the middle.

#2 He looked down, at the ~~thing that sat~~ **crystal pendant resting** in his lap, a crystal pendant. He had found it on his bed the night before, glowing with power, and now, it was glowing even brighter. He raised it high in the air, and it flashed, **as** an electric line connected the pendant to the middle of the storm. The crystal began to pulse wildly, shaking and trying to ~~zoom~~ **pull** into the storm's ~~lap~~ **centre**. James inhaled sharply, as memories started to flash more rapidly than ever in his mind.

James focused, desperate to catch one image, but they only whirled faster, avoiding his grasp. Now, the crystal was pulsing harder than before, and James could practically feel his legs trying to lift off into the air. Two choices hung before him — let go, or try to see what ~~is~~ **was** about to happen.

#3 He drifted back and forth before the two options, **until**, as the crystal reached its breaking point, **and** James finally decided to hang on. ~~Not because of the fact that it might be interesting, but because of that~~ **Not because it might be interesting, but because** he wanted the memories in his head to become clear, and he sensed this ~~is~~ **was** how he ~~'s~~ **was** supposed to do it. Walking to the centre of the stadium, he jumped up as high as he could, trying to let the crystal take control.

And it did. The line connecting the two became thicker and stronger, no longer flickering, but shining with a lightning-like glow. The people huddled in the safety of the shelters whispered in alarm, and two policemen stepped forward, looking like they wanted to do something. But it was too late now. The storm was slowing down, ~~meaning~~ **which meant** the pendant only had a few moments. It jerked hard, and with James's hand still clutched ~~on~~ **around** it, flew upwards at maximum speed. He rose to the same level ~~of~~ **as** the storm, and as lightning flashed once again, a blindingly white light illuminated his vision. When he opened his eyes, he was no longer in the stadium.