Term 3 - 2025: Week 2 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

Section 1:

#1 - Opening scene with thunder and crowd reaction **Strengths:** Your opening creates immediate atmosphere with the thunder silencing the crowd. The sensory detail of "White zig zags illuminated the sky" helps readers visualise the storm.

Weakness: Unclear scene setting \rightarrow Your piece jumps between different settings without clearly establishing where John is or what's happening. The phrase "a cat chasing a tasty group of mice at full speed" creates confusion because it doesn't match the serious tone of a storm scene.

Exemplar: The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd instantly, like a teacher's sharp whistle stopping playground chatter.

#2 - The mysterious tin can and John's memories **Strengths:** Your writing shows creativity by connecting the tin can to John's past through memories. The personal connection with his initials "JK, Johnathan Kirby" adds mystery to the story.

Weakness: Confusing narrative flow \rightarrow Your story switches too quickly between the present storm and John's memories without smooth connections. The sentence "Suddenly the winds roared with a deafening silence" doesn't make sense because roaring and silence are opposites.

Exemplar: As John held the tin can, memories of playing football with his friends came flooding back, reminding him of happier times.

#3 - The prophecy and John's realisation about being chosen **Strengths:** Your piece builds tension well with John wondering if he's "the chosen one." The connection between his father's words and the current situation shows good story planning.

Weakness: Vague story elements \rightarrow Your writing includes important details like the prophecy and his parents' disappearance but doesn't explain them clearly enough. The phrase "anger will pass... spread to the only person who lets it spread" is too confusing for readers to understand.

Exemplar: John remembered his father's warning: "One day, you'll face a great challenge, and only the bravest person will be chosen to help."

■ Your piece shows strong imagination and creates an exciting, mysterious atmosphere that draws readers in. You've created an interesting character in John and built good tension with the storm and the mysterious tin can. However, your story needs clearer connections between different parts to help readers follow what's happening. Additionally, your piece would benefit from simpler, clearer explanations of important story elements like the prophecy and John's family situation. Also, some sentences try to say too much at once, making them hard to

understand. Try breaking long sentences into shorter ones and explaining mysterious elements more clearly. Your story has great potential - focus on making each scene flow smoothly into the next one and helping readers understand the important details about John's past and the prophecy.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 The first crash of thunder silenced the crowd faster than a cat chasing a tasty group of mice [pack of mice] at full speed. White zig zags illuminated the sky like a lightbulb, revealing the many hundreds of faces across the rows of stadium seats. John could hear his heart hammering against his ribs pleading to escape. His mind flashed with thoughts – Will this end good [well]? Will I be able to leave this stadium alive? This feels just like the time my parents brought me here! I hope I turn out to be okay.

#2 The wind turned from breeze to blaze, picking up astonishing speed. Suddenly, a metallic shine soared through the sky, landing with a 'THUMP!' on John's lap. He gasped. It had his initials on it – JK, Johnathan Kirby. Suddenly the winds roared with a deafening silence [The winds suddenly died down to an eerie silence], and John could here [hear] nothing but the whispers of a prophecy – and then something that nearly made young Johnathan whip his head around away from the blinding rips in the sky to the chattering of the many onlookers who came to watch the match. John stared at the seore board [scoreboard] for a moment, then at the field. 5-3, Real Madrid. He saw the players scoring goal after goal, playing fearlessly into the aggravated night.

#3 John looked back down at the tin can in his hand, bearing his initials. Suddenly, his mind flashed with memories. The can which he kicked around like a soccer ball in matches with his friends. The can which gave him so much. The can which changed his life. He bore his initials in this when it was time to let go. [He had carved his initials into it when it was time to let go.] When his parents went missing, family member after family member left him. What if this is my call? He recalled the words immediately [instantly] that his father had spoken to him the night before the disappearance. One day, anger will pass. The next, it will spread. It will spread to the only person who lets it spread, and they will be chosen by a falling holder [vessel]. Maybe this is what it meant! he thought. Maybe he was the chosen one. And hopefully, he would be safe. He left the stadium and headed toward the door, but the storm looked like it had other plans. The rip in the sky ran down into the earth, smashing down pieces of ceiling, blocking the way out. And at that moment, at that cause, at that point in time, John thought – was this just some wild weather, or something a bit more sinister?