Writing Feedback

TERM 2 - 2025 | Day 5 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Reading & Writing

## **Section 1:**

**#1** "Ever since the machines took over the hard decisions, Theo felt like his thoughts didn't belong to him anymore."

**Strengths:** Your opening sentence creates a strong hook that immediately shows the main problem. The idea of thoughts not belonging to someone is powerful and makes readers want to know more.

**Ambiguous pronoun reference** → The phrase "his thoughts didn't belong to him" uses "his" and "him" twice, which makes it unclear and hard to follow. This repetition creates confusion about who owns the thoughts.

Exemplar: "Ever since the machines took over the hard decisions, Theo felt like his thoughts belonged to someone else."

#2 "When the system made a choice that hurt innocent people, Theo couldn't escape the haunting feeling that he let it happen."

**Strengths:** This sentence shows the emotional impact on Theo clearly. Your use of "haunting feeling" helps readers understand how guilty he feels.

Vague consequence description → The phrase "hurt innocent people" is too general and doesn't help readers understand what actually happened. Without specific details, the consequence feels weak and unconvincing.

Exemplar: "When the system made a choice that separated families, Theo couldn't escape the haunting feeling that he let it happen."

#3 "His mind felt split in two—one side wanting to trust the perfect logic of the machines, the other screaming to make his own decisions."

**Strengths:** Your metaphor of a split mind works well to show Theo's internal struggle. The contrast between trusting machines and making his own choices is clear.

**Inconsistent emotional intensity**  $\rightarrow$  The word "screaming" creates a very strong emotional picture, but it doesn't match the calmer tone of the rest of your writing. This sudden change in intensity feels out of place.

Exemplar: "His mind felt split in two—one side wanting to trust the perfect logic of the machines, the other urging him to make his own decisions."

■ Your piece explores an interesting theme about humans versus machines, and you've created a character that readers can understand. The main strength is how you show Theo's internal conflict through his thoughts and feelings. However, your writing would benefit from clearer descriptions and more specific examples. Additionally, you could improve the flow between sentences by using better connecting words. Also, some parts need more concrete details to help readers picture what's happening. Furthermore, you should work on making your emotional language match the overall tone of your piece. The ending feels rushed and could use more development to show how Theo's struggle affects his daily life. Moreover, adding more specific examples of the system's decisions would make your story more believable and engaging.

Overall Score: 42/50

## **Section 2:**

#1 Ever since the machines took over the hard decisions, Theo felt like his thoughts didn't belong to him anymore [belonged to someone else]. #2 The world got louder—not just with sounds, but with commands, screens, alerts, and rules that never stopped. He knew it was safer to follow the system, but every time he did, he felt a risk growing inside him, like a small fire no one could see. #3 When the system made a choice that hurt innocent people [separated families], Theo couldn't escape the haunting feeling that he let it happen. He kept asking himself: if he knew it was wrong, why didn't he stop it? His mind felt split in two—one side wanting to trust the perfect logic of the machines, the other screaming [urging him] to make his own decisions. That split didn't just confuse him; it almost broke him, because now he didn't know who he was without the system to tell him.