

Section 1:

#1 "I remember the first time I heard it. A low, guttural growl, like rocks grinding deep underground. I froze, there were no birds, nothing but that sound echoing through the trees. Then, a sudden crash of branches, something big, heavy, and fast moving through the undergrowth. I was certain that I had discovered something big."

Strengths:

- You've created vivid sensory details with the description of the sound as "rocks grinding deep underground"
- The pacing builds tension effectively with short, impactful sentences

Sentence fragments → Your paragraph contains several incomplete sentences that don't follow proper structure. For example, "A low, guttural growl, like rocks grinding deep underground" is a fragment without a subject and verb. This makes your writing feel choppy rather than flowing smoothly. ***I remember the first time I heard it—a low, guttural growl, like rocks grinding deep underground.***

#2 "Later I found clumps of rough black fur stuck to the bark of a tree, much higher than any normal animal could reach. I took some of it and got it tested. The results said they didn't know what animal it came from."

Strengths:

- You've included specific evidence (fur) which adds credibility to your narrative
- The detail about the height of the fur on the tree creates intrigue

Underdeveloped evidence → You mention getting the fur tested but don't provide enough details about this important piece of evidence. Who tested it? What specific tests were done? What exactly did they say about the results? ***Later I found clumps of rough black fur stuck to the bark of a tree, almost three metres high. I took samples to Professor Wilson at the university laboratory, who confirmed the DNA didn't match any known animal species in their extensive database.***

#3 "I've taken photos of the footprints. I followed the path the creature uses. I've even talked to other people who saw it too, but they were scared to tell anyone. They didn't want to be made fun of. I used to feel the same way. Maybe you do too."

Strengths:

- You create connection with the reader by acknowledging shared feelings
- You mention multiple types of evidence (photos, paths, witnesses)

Repetitive sentence structure → Your paragraph begins with three consecutive sentences starting with "I" followed by a verb. This creates a monotonous rhythm that doesn't engage the reader. *After capturing clear photographs of the massive footprints, I carefully traced the creature's regular path through the forest. Several local bushwalkers have also confided in me about their own encounters, though they've remained silent publicly for fear of ridicule.*

■ Your mystery creature story has a strong foundation with intriguing elements that capture the reader's imagination. However, you could improve the depth by developing a more detailed description of the creature itself. What does it look like beyond the fur? How big are the footprints exactly? Additionally, your narrative would benefit from more specific details about the setting. Where exactly is this forest? What makes it unique or mysterious? You could also strengthen your piece by adding more emotional reactions to your encounters. How did you feel when you first saw evidence? Were you scared, excited, or curious? Also, consider adding more sensory details throughout—what did the forest smell like? Was it cold or warm? These specific details will make your story more immersive and believable for your readers.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

The creature no one thought existed.

For generations, people have dismissed the idea of a strange creature said to live deep in the forests. Scientists laugh and roll their eyes. But you know the truth, you've seen it, heard it, and have evidence.

Have you ever gone on a bushwalk and seen giant footprints? Have you ever walked down a ~~sleep~~ [steep] slope on a hill [?] The footprints are the monster's marks, and the slope was the monsters sleeping place slowly worn down by its weight. If that's not enough then ~~if~~ [I'll] give you a completely factual recount of how I realised the creature was real.

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#2 Later I found clumps of rough black fur stuck to the bark of a tree, much higher than any normal animal could reach. I took some of it and got it tested. The results said they didn't know what animal it came from.

~~Do~~ [Do] you believe me now?

#3 I've taken photos of the footprints. I followed the path the creature uses. I've even talked to other people who saw it too, but they were scared to tell anyone. They didn't want to be made fun of. I used to feel the same way. Maybe you do too.

Some people say it's just a story or a joke. But I know the forest keeps many secrets. And this creature, whatever it is, is real.

Don't wait for someone on the news to prove it. Go out there. Look around. Listen carefully. You might see it yourself before it disappears again.

But be careful because it might be watching your every move. Be careful while you are in the woods or forest next time.