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Term 3 - 2025: Week 2 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Reading & Writing

## **Section 1**

#1 "A creeping sensation crawled onto her skin as Sakura noticed a gloomy, mauve room to the right of the music room."

**Strengths:** You create an immediate sense of unease with "creeping sensation crawled" which draws readers in straight away. Your colour choice of "mauve" adds specific detail that helps readers picture the scene clearly.

Weakness: Awkward preposition usage  $\rightarrow$  The phrase "crawled onto her skin" doesn't work well because sensations don't physically crawl onto skin - they move through or across it. This makes the sentence sound unnatural and confuses readers about what's actually happening.

Exemplar: A creeping sensation spread across her skin as Sakura noticed a gloomy, mauve room to the right of the music room.

#2 "The first thing anyone said to her when she came into this horrifying place was, 'Don't look at any of the teachers. Trust me, IT made me remember never to even glance at them again.' 'Whatever you do, don't look at the teachers. IT will make you pay the price.' 'Don't look at anything here except for your fellow students. IT has made that very clear.'"

**Strengths:** Your repetition of the warning creates strong tension and shows how serious the threat is. The mysterious "IT" builds suspense effectively by not revealing what the danger actually is.

Weakness: Unclear dialogue structure  $\rightarrow$  You've written three separate warnings as if they're all from the same person, but it's confusing whether one person said all three things or if different people spoke. The way you've written it makes it hard for readers to follow who's talking.

Exemplar: The first thing anyone said to her when she came into this horrifying place was, 'Don't look at any of the teachers. Trust me, IT made me remember never to even glance at them again.' Another student whispered urgently, 'Whatever you do, don't look at the teachers. IT will make you pay the price.'

#3 "'Don't look behind you,' Her conscience whispered. 'Don't look-' It was too late. All she could do was run. Run straight into the room."

**Strengths:** Your short, punchy sentences create excitement and panic. The incomplete sentence "Don't look-" shows how quickly everything changes and builds tension well.

**Weakness: Inconsistent capitalisation** → You've written "Her conscience" with a capital H, but it should be lowercase because it comes after dialogue. This breaks the flow for readers and looks like a mistake.

Exemplar: 'Don't look behind you,' her conscience whispered. 'Don't look-' It was too late. All she could do was run. Run straight into the room.

■ Your piece shows good imagination and creates a spooky atmosphere that would engage readers. You use interesting vocabulary like "stupendous" and "ominous" which makes your writing more sophisticated. However, your content needs more depth to help readers understand what's happening. You could improve by adding more details about why the school is dangerous and what Sakura is actually seeing. Additionally, you should work on making your sentences flow better together - some parts feel choppy while others are too long. Also, try to give readers more clues about the mystery rather than just asking questions. Your dialogue needs clearer structure so readers can tell who's speaking. Finally, add more description about Sakura's feelings and thoughts to help readers connect with her character better.

Overall Score: 40/50

## **Section 2**

#1 A creeping sensation crawled onto [A creeping sensation spread across] her skin as Sakura noticed a gloomy, mauve room to the right of the music room. A slow, terrifying heart beat [heartbeat] came from the classroom. What unforgettable secrets were hiding behind those stained-glass doors? Why did it feel like Sakura was trapped in this creepy boarding school when she first stepped onto the pale white marble floors of the school? And, most mysterious of all, why did no one even look at any of the teachers in every single one of her classes? #2 The first thing anyone said to her when she came into this horrifying place was, "Don't look at any of the teachers. Trust me, IT made me remember never to even glance at them again." "Whatever you do, don't look at the teachers. IT will make you pay the price." "Don't look at anything here except for your fellow students. IT has made that very clear." [Another student whispered urgently, "Whatever you do, don't look at anything here except for your fellow students. IT has made that very clear."]

Who was this IT? Why was everyone so worried about them? CRACK. CRACK. CRACK. Sakura stopped in her tracks. The disgusting noise was coming from the room. The eerie, ominous room that she was terrified of. Could it be someone's limbs

cracking off? It could've been anything, at this point. Suddenly, a stupendous, dark shadow formed behind her. #3 "Don't look behind you," Her ["Don't look behind you," her] conscience whispered. "Don't look-" It was too late. All she could do was run. Run straight into the room.