## Term 3 - 2025: Week 3 - Writing Homework | Year 4 Scholarship

## Section 1:

#1 "I stare at the bright, twisting shapes painted in blinding neon green. The untidy scrawls bounce around everywhere-the stage, the walls, even the roof!"

**Strengths:** Your opening immediately creates a vivid visual scene that draws readers in. The descriptive language helps us picture the chaotic graffiti.

Weakness: Punctuation inconsistencies → Your writing contains several punctuation errors that disrupt the flow. Notice the missing space after "bright," and the incorrect use of hyphens instead of em-dashes. These small mistakes can distract readers from your engaging story.

Exemplar: "I stare at the bright, twisting shapes painted in blinding neon green. The untidy scrawls bounce around everywhere — the stage, the walls, even the roof!"

#2 "Alex secretly calls her Miss Angry-Face, and just now I understand why. Most of the time, Alex gets taken to the front office and yelled at there, for things she probably didn't even do."

**Strengths:** You effectively reveal character relationships and build sympathy for Alex through specific details about unfair treatment.

Weakness: Sentence structure problems → Your sentences contain awkward phrasing and unnecessary words that make them clunky to read. The phrase "yelled at there" is redundant, and the sentence structure could be smoother.

Exemplar: "Alex secretly calls her Miss Angry-Face, and now I understand why. Most of the time, Alex gets taken to the front office and yelled at for things she probably didn't even do."

#3 "You painted the wall. You did it to make Alex look bad, and have an excuse to get rid of her.I can prove it."

**Strengths:** Your dialogue creates dramatic tension and shows the narrator's courage in standing up for their friend.

Weakness: Spacing and sentence flow issues  $\rightarrow$  You're missing spaces between sentences, and the short, choppy sentences don't flow well together. This makes the climactic moment feel less powerful than it could be.

Exemplar: "You painted the wall to make Alex look bad and give yourself an excuse to get rid of her. I can prove it."

■ Your piece tells an engaging story about friendship and standing up against unfairness, which are important themes that connect well with readers. The mystery element of discovering who really

painted the graffiti creates good suspense. However, your writing would benefit from more careful proofreading to fix spacing and punctuation errors. Additionally, some of your sentences are quite long and could be broken down into shorter, clearer ones. Try reading your work aloud to catch places where the flow feels bumpy. Also, consider adding more details about the setting and characters' emotions to help readers feel more connected to the story. Your dialogue shows promise, but make sure each speaker's voice sounds natural and distinct.

Overall Score: 43/50

## Section 2:

#1 I stare at the bright, [, ] twisting shapes painted in blinding neon green. The untidy scrawls bounce around everywhere-[—]the stage, the walls, even the roof! The principal is standing nearby, seething. I straighten up and gulp. Miss Angre-Faize, the headmistress of St Katherine's Girls School, is glaring at one particular person. [—] Alex. My heart races in my chest, aching to save my friend from the unbearable wrath of the principal's iron-hot glare.'[.] 'ALEXA FIERE!!!! ["ALEXA FIERE!"] She screams, unable to contain the gigantic amount of fury directed mainly at Alex and a few billion other people. I figure if you took all of Miss Angre-Faize's wrath and converted it into ammunition, you could have enough to start World War III and be plentiful of [have plenty of] ammo. Alex secretly calls her Miss Angry-Face, and just now I understand why. Most of the time, Alex gets taken to the front office and yelled at there, for things she probably didn't even do. I'm a good student. I get good grades, pay attention in class, and try to stay out of Miss Angre-Faize's way. I've heard rumors [rumours] about what happens in her office, but I've never, ever been there. Sure, I heard the gossip about Rosie. Taken to the office one day. Never returned. As I looked at our headmistress's face contorted with rage, an unattractive shade of puce, her neat bun coming undone, her glasses askew, roaring at Alex;[,] I wondered why Alex hadn't just left and went[gone] to a school with a nicer principal. I would have run home crying by now, but Alex just calmly stood there, listening to our headmistress rant about deranged kids, expulsion and repainting the hall. But as soon as I heard the words "no parents", I realized [realised] that she had really crossed the line.

#2 Parents were a sensitive topic. Alex had no family left, and lived in a foster home. When I had mentioned parents gently, Alex had slapped me in the face several times, with brute force and a outraged[an outraged] expression. Hearing the words yelled, I felt a terrible urge to grab a sword and kebab Miss Angre-Faize. And as I saw the fire blazing in her eyes, I knew that she had finally gone too far. Alex screamed, "DO YOU EVEN HAVE ANY EVIDENCE THAT I DID IT??!?" And then ran [She then ran] away from our headmistress, cursing her. But before she ran away, I thought I had heard a small sob.

#3 I stare at the principal, Alex's words spinning in my head, her desperate tone accusing every inch of the headmistress. And then I realize[realise] Alex is right. How does she have any proof that Alex was the one that painted the wall? And then I do the thing I have been yearning to do, ever since Miss Angre-Faize had taunted Alex. "Alex is right." I announce. The principal turns her eyes of death to me, her gaze burning everything in sight, but as I look, i[I] see that someone had doused the flames a little. It hits me like a speeding bullet train. Miss Angre-Faize had painted the wall." "You painted the wall. You did it to make Alex look bad, and have an excuse to get rid of her.I[. I] can prove it. You have neon paint on your skirt, but all the paint had already dried. "I[," I] say firmly." [.] "You came here today, and everyone knows that you are the first to arrive. Yesterday, the cameras reported no-one in the hall, so Alex couldn't have snuck in yesterday. But the cameras don't work until 7 am, and you arrive at 6. So all you had to do was wake up earlier and paint the hall. "I[," I] point out. Some of the girls crowded around us are starting to make sense of it, too. The teachers are also realizing [realising], that while Alex looked like the troublemaker, Miss Angre-Faize was behind the scenes, pulling the strings to make sure her reputation remained pristine while secretly making Alex look bad. I step back satisfied. My work is done. Now I just have to find Alex.