

Section 1:

#1: "I took a step towards the door, gripping my mum's hand tightly. I bit my nails releasing what I had agreed to do. I stepped inside the gigantic room."

Strengths: Your piece effectively shows nervousness through physical actions like gripping your mum's hand and biting your nails. The description of the gigantic room with specific details about the netball ring helps readers picture the setting.

Weakness: Unclear sentence construction → The phrase "I bit my nails releasing what I had agreed to do" doesn't make clear sense. The connection between biting nails and "releasing what I had agreed to do" is confusing for readers. This makes it hard to understand exactly what you mean.

Exemplar: *I bit my nails nervously, thinking about what I had agreed to do.*

#2: "Finally it was time for mum to leave. I could feel a knot in my stomach. I started to bite on my soft toy that I had brought with me. My mum said bye. I wouldn't be seeing her for the next few days. I thought 'It's now or never, should I leave with mum or should I stay.'"

Strengths: Your writing captures the emotional conflict well through physical descriptions like the knot in your stomach. The internal dialogue shows your character's struggle clearly.

Weakness: Choppy sentence flow → Your sentences are very short and disconnected, making the paragraph feel jumpy. Phrases like "My mum said bye. I wouldn't be seeing her for the next few days. I thought" don't flow smoothly together, making the reading experience bumpy.

Exemplar: *When it was time for mum to leave, I felt a knot forming in my stomach as I bit on my soft toy, knowing I wouldn't see her for the next few days.*

#3: "Later that night I heard a noise. I saw that Brooklyn wasn't next to me. I got scared and went to knock on the door of her parents room."

Strengths: Your piece builds tension effectively by starting with the mysterious noise. The simple, direct sentences create urgency in this scene.

Weakness: Missing story details → You don't explain what the noise was or give enough information about why Brooklyn wasn't there. Readers need more context to fully understand what's happening in this important part of your story.

Exemplar: *Later that night, I woke to strange beeping sounds coming from downstairs and discovered Brooklyn's side of the bed was empty.*

■ Your piece tells an engaging story about overcoming fears and trying new experiences, which is a valuable message. The sleepover adventure feels realistic and relatable for readers your age. However, your writing would benefit from connecting your sentences more smoothly using linking words like "then," "because," and "after." Additionally, you could add more descriptive details to help readers picture the scenes better - for example, what Brooklyn's room looked like or how the characters felt during different moments. Also, your dialogue needs more variety in how you introduce it, rather than always using "she said." Furthermore, some parts of your story need clearer explanations, particularly the middle section where Brooklyn disappears and the beeping sounds occur. You could also improve the flow by combining some of your shorter sentences into longer, more detailed ones. Finally, your conclusion about learning to try new things would be stronger if you showed this lesson through your actions rather than simply stating it at the end.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

I took a step towards the door, gripping my mum's hand tightly. I ~~bit my nails releasing what I had agreed to do~~ [nervously bit my nails, thinking about what I had agreed to do]. I stepped inside the gigantic room. The ceilings were the perfect height for a standard sized netball ring to fit inside[and you could still shoot] [, with plenty of space for shooting]. Brooklyn, my best friend suddenly came rushing towards me. I could see how excited she was to have me over for three nights straight. My mum and I walked following Brooklyn and her mum to their kitchen. My mum would be staying for a little bit but ~~then~~ she would leave after an hour or so. #1

Up in Brooklyn's room we both ran around and played with dolls. Finally it was time for mum to leave. I could feel a knot in my stomach. I started to bite on my soft toy that I had brought with me. ~~My mum said bye. I wouldn't be seeing her for the next few days. I thought~~ [When my mum said goodbye, I realised I wouldn't be seeing her for the next few days, and I thought] "It's now or never [—] S[s]hould I leave with mum or should I stay.[?]" I couldn't help it. I didn't want to stay. I ran after mum and into the car. Mum said, [:]

"Sophie, Brooklyn is expecting you to stay at her house for a ~~sleep over~~ [sleepover]. You have made the commitment and told her that you would stay." "[She continued,] "You are a resilient girl. [—] I know you can do this." I knew mum was right. Brooklyn had been expecting me to

come all week, and when I got back to school from the holidays I would be able to tell my teacher about the sleepover. I thought about it. Maybe I just needed to give a sleepover a chance. #2

My mum and I walked back up the stone path towards Brooklyn's house. Mum apologised for the inconvenience and then I walked up the spiral staircase to Brooklyn's room. I apologised to her for running out of the house. My mum left without anything happening this time. Brooklyn and I went to the mini golf park and then to the arcade. Sleepovers were ~~funner~~ [more fun] than I expected. Brooklyn and I were sleeping together in her room. Tired from the long day, I dozed off quickly.

Later that night I heard a noise. I saw that Brooklyn wasn't next to me. I got scared and went to knock on the door of her ~~parents-room~~ [parents' room]. Brooklyn's mum answered the door. She gestured for me to come in and I told her that Brooklyn wasn't next to me in her bed. She told me she had heard beeping sounds too so she thought that maybe Brooklyn was up. We both ran around checking all the rooms and we found Brooklyn in the kitchen munching on some snowflake ice lollies. Brooklyn looked at us wide-eyed and too surprised to say anything. Finally Brooklyn's mum broke the silence, scolding Brooklyn. She also told Brooklyn to apologise to everyone for waking them up. She said [.]

"Sorry everyone [.] I promise I won't do it again"

"That's ~~OK~~ [okay]; Brooklyn." I replied. The next morning, when we were eating breakfast my mum came to check on me. I told her I would stay for the rest of the sleepover. In the end I ~~learnt~~ [learned] that it is always better to give things a try. #3