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

Section 1:

#1 "Gabriel dashed across the football field, chasing after the ball. His foot caught it, and it swerved the ball around, and the ball sped to the other side. Max caught the pass with high precision and booted it towards the goalpost, which gaped wide open like a hungry mouth."

Strengths: Your opening creates immediate action and energy. The simile comparing the goalpost to "a hungry mouth" adds vivid imagery.

Weakness: Unclear movement sequence \rightarrow The football action becomes confusing because you've written "His foot caught it, and it swerved the ball around, and the ball sped to the other side." This doesn't clearly show how Gabriel controls the ball or passes it to Max. The reader can't follow the actual play.

Exemplar: Gabriel dashed across the football field, trapped the ball with his foot, then skillfully passed it across the pitch to Max.

#2 "Her long, silky, smooth golden hair hung around her slender shoulders. She glanced around, twitching, seemingly heedless of the competitive game. Her fingers fidgeted with a pencil and a notebook."

Strengths: You've created a clear contrast between the girl and the exciting game around her. Your detailed physical description helps readers visualise her appearance.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence structure → Most of your sentences about the girl start the same way: "Her long hair...", "Her fingers...", "Her deep eyes..." This creates choppy writing that sounds monotonous when read aloud.

Exemplar: Golden hair cascaded over her slender shoulders as she glanced around nervously, fingers fidgeting with her pencil and notebook.

#3 "Her pencil danced across the pages as the scratch of paper filled my ears. I attempted to turn my attention back to the game, to the ball spinning around the field, but my eyes refused to listen."

Strengths: You've used personification effectively with "pencil danced" and "eyes refused to listen." Your narrator's internal conflict between watching the game and the girl creates tension.

Weakness: Confusing sensory details → You've written "the scratch of paper filled my ears," but pencils don't scratch on paper—they glide smoothly. This detail doesn't match reality and confuses readers.

Exemplar: Her pencil glided across the pages as the soft sound of writing filled my ears.

Your piece shows creativity in combining a football match with character observation. The contrast between the energetic game and the quiet, thoughtful girl creates an interesting dynamic that holds the reader's attention. However, your writing needs clearer action sequences and better sentence variety to flow more smoothly. The football scene would benefit from simpler, clearer descriptions of what actually happens with the ball. Additionally, you should vary how you start your sentences—instead of always beginning with "Her" or "She," try combining ideas into longer, more flowing sentences. Your descriptive vocabulary is strong, but make sure your details match real life. Also, consider adding more about why the narrator finds this girl so fascinating—what specific actions or expressions draw their attention? This would give your writing more depth and help readers understand the character's motivation better.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Gabriel dashed across the football field, chasing after the ball. His foot eaught it, and it swerved the ball around, and the ball sped to the other side. [#1 Gabriel dashed across the football field, chasing after the ball. His foot trapped it, and he skilfully manoeuvred around his opponent before passing it across the pitch.] Max caught the pass with high precision and booted it towards the goalpost, which gaped wide open like a hungry mouth. 'Goal!' Max cheeredand [, and] the crowd supporting the Blue team whooped and applauded. As I clapped along with the crowd, I spotted a shy girl sitting by herself at the back of the crowd. I watched as I realised [#2 Watching her, I realised] she was the leader of the school's literature society. Her long, silky, smooth golden hair hung around her slender shoulders. She glanced around, twitching, seemingly heedless of the competitive game. Her fingers fidgeted with a pencil and a notebook. [Long, silky golden hair cascaded over her slender shoulders as she glanced around nervously, seemingly heedless of the competitive game, her fingers fidgeting with a pencil and notebook.] Her deep, crystalline blue eyes glittered with curiousity [curiosity] and thought as she scribbled down more words that spiralled around the pages of her notebook, filling up the empty gaps in between lines. She gazed up at the everlasting azure sky, her mind seemingly somewhere else rather than here. She turned her gaze down to the fields, and then wrote again. Her peneil danced across the pages as the seratch of paper filled my ears. [#3 Her pencil danced across the pages as the soft sound of writing reached my ears.] I attempted to turn my attention back to the game, to the ball spinning around the field, but my eyes refused to listen. They continued watching the curious girl as if she

entranced them. Her eyelids shadowed the cerulean glitter, but I thought I still saw a slight glimmer of those elegant eyes. Her fingers fiddled with her precious pencil that I had seen her carry everywhere, along with her notebook.