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

Section 1:

#1 - "Sprinting across the corridor, lights flickered above me, throwing shadows that skated across the floor. I took a sharp turn that sliced the air and rushed towards the cafeteria."

Strengths: Your opening creates immediate movement and energy. The verb "skated" gives shadows a dynamic quality that works well.

Weakness: Unclear sentence structure → The opening sentence connects two independent actions awkwardly. "Sprinting across the corridor" should connect more clearly to the main action. The phrase "a sharp turn that sliced the air" doesn't quite make sense - turns don't slice air in this context.

Exemplar: As I sprinted across the corridor, lights flickered above me, casting shadows that danced across the floor.

#2 - "Then, without warning, one door creaked open to reveal an amethyst portal, its swirling surface glimmering with shifting light. With one touch, next thing I knew, was I was soaring in space towards an unknown planet."

Strengths: Your imagination shines through with the amethyst portal concept. The transition from realistic to fantastical is bold and creative.

Weakness: Confusing sentence construction \rightarrow The second sentence has grammatical errors that make it difficult to follow. "With one touch, next thing I knew, was I was soaring" contains extra words and incorrect structure that disrupts the flow.

Exemplar: With one touch, the next thing I knew, I was soaring through space towards an unknown planet.

#3 - "Wind rushed past my face, but then came silence. Thick, absolute silence, and in that moment, I realised there was no one left who could take us back to the human world."

Strengths: The contrast between wind and silence creates effective atmosphere. Your ending leaves the reader with questions, which works well for this type of story.

Weakness: Logical gap → The pronoun "us" appears suddenly without explanation. Throughout the story, only Anna has been mentioned as the main character, so readers don't know who else is included in "us."

Exemplar: In that moment, I realised there was no one left who could take me back to the human world.

■ Your piece shows strong creative imagination, particularly in how you blend realistic hide-and-seek with fantasy elements. The sensory details like "tangy but sweet" scents and "cool air brushed my cheek" help readers feel present in the story. However, your writing would benefit from clearer sentence structure throughout. Many sentences try to combine too many ideas at once, making them confusing to follow. Additionally, you could strengthen your story by developing the characters more - the mysterious girl disappears too quickly, and readers need more information about who she is and why she's important. Also, some plot points need better explanation, such as why the lockers are steaming and what happened to create the portal. Furthermore, the transition between different scenes could be smoother with better connecting sentences. Your vocabulary choices show good effort, but focus on making sure each sentence makes complete sense before adding descriptive language.

Overall Score: 39/50

Section 2:

corridor, lights flickered above me, casting] shadows that skated across the floor. I took a sharp turn that sliced the air [through the hallway] and rushed towards the cafeteria. The air felt thicker here. It carried a faint scent, like fruit, tangy but sweet. My fingers traced the edges of the tables as I crept forward. It was said that some people liked to hide in lockers [;] but [however,] some people would hide in one and never return. The paint on the table was smooth in some places,

Sprinting across the corridor, lights flickered above me, throwing [As I sprinted across the

people would hide in one and never return. The paint on the table was smooth in some places, but sometimes bumpy. "Ready or not, here I come!" The seeker's voice was distant now. Slowly, I started to hear footsteps approaching. I darted toward the lockers. A low hum trembled through the air. Steam curled out from two lockers that seemed to breathe. Cool air brushed my cheek, carrying the taste of metal and dust. My heart thudded in sync with my head filling up with questions [the questions filling my head].

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#1 Then, without warning, one door creaked open to reveal an amethyst portal, its swirling surface glimmering with shifting light. With one touch, next thing I knew, was I was soaring [With one touch, the next thing I knew, I was soaring] in space towards an unknown planet. **#2** Slowly opening my eyes, I was greeted by what looked like a lion but was friendly like a dog. I slowly got up, getting used to the light [and] heard a young girl say [:]

"Hello! What's your name?"

"My name is Anna," I said, my voice uncertain. "Where am I? Who are you?"

But there was no reply. The girl had vanished into the forest.

"Wait! Come back!" I shouted, chasing her between the trees. #3 Wind rushed past my face, but then came silence. Thick, absolute silence [.] and [And] in that moment, I realised there was no one left who could take us [me] back to the human world.