

Section 1:

#1 Opening paragraph about the sunflower

Strengths: Your imagery creates a vivid picture of the sunflower in different seasons. The contrast between summer warmth and winter cold works well to show change.

Weakness: Unclear setting → The sunflower's location shifts confusingly from being outdoors in "summer's shimmering, golden rays" to suddenly being inside "surrounded by rock" and near "the fissure in the cave." This makes it difficult to picture where the sunflower actually is throughout the scene.

Exemplar: *The wilting sunflower, sheltered in the rocky cave entrance, turned its mahogany brown head towards the bright yellow orb slowly arcing across the sky.*

#2 Lucy's dialogue and teasing of Timothy

Strengths: The dialogue sounds natural and captures how children might tease each other. Lucy's character comes through clearly as someone who picks on others.

Weakness: Vague conflict → The reason for Lucy's teasing isn't clear. The phrase "his friends finding new friends" is confusing and doesn't help readers understand what's actually happening between Timothy and his mate, or why this situation exists.

Exemplar: *"Timothy!" jeered Lucy. "Is your best friend sitting alone again because you two had another argument? Aww, why don't you go apologise?"*

#3 Timothy's emotional response and physical description

Strengths: The physical details like "ears burned red hot" and "fists clenched" effectively show Timothy's anger and embarrassment. The description of his shirt adds personal touches.

Weakness: Disconnected details → The description jumps between Timothy's emotions and random observations about his shirt's stitching and the wooden seat. These details don't connect to the main conflict or help readers understand Timothy's feelings better.

Exemplar: *He whimpered, pulling at his favourite shirt nervously as he slumped into the creaky wooden chair, wishing he could disappear.*

■ Your piece shows creativity in trying to connect two different scenes through similar ending sentences. However, the writing would benefit from clearer connections between ideas within each paragraph. The sunflower scene needs a consistent setting that readers can easily picture from start

to finish. Additionally, Timothy's situation requires more explanation so readers understand why he's upset and what exactly happened with his friend. Your descriptive language shows good effort, but focus on making sure each detail serves the story's purpose. Also, consider how the two scenes relate to each other beyond just having similar endings - perhaps they could share themes more clearly. Try reading each paragraph aloud to check if the sequence of events makes sense to someone hearing it for the first time.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 Through summer's shimmering, golden rays, the wilting sunflower gradually turned its mahogany brown head towards the bright yellow orb slowly arcing across the sky. Although it was surrounded by rock, the glimpses of the sparkling sphere were enough. By the time the clouds were ~~cackling~~ [gathering menacingly] in front of the sun, the sunflower already had hope for the cold months. However, it shied away from the fissure in the cave, frigid air howling around it. Clatter! The sunflower quivered. A hailstone shattered on the patch of grass beneath it. Shivering, the sunflower sighed. This was not going to be an easy winter.

#2 "Timothy!" jeered Lucy. "Is your mate sitting alone, again? Aww, why don't you go see him?"

"Lay off, Lucy," growled Tim. His ears burned red hot, but he ignored it. Why couldn't Lucy just tease someone else? She didn't need to humiliate him by pointing out **#3** ~~his friends finding new friends~~ [that his best friend was making new friendships]. His fists clenched, and his brows were dangerously low. Hissing deep in his throat, he pushed down the lump in his throat, stubborn and firm. He bit his lip, running his fingers along his dark blue shirt, letting them go in circles around the bear. The lines seemed crooked and awkward, like they were stitched by someone closing their eyes. He whimpered, sitting down on a seat, perfectly smooth and clean. The brown wood creaked softly under his weight. This was not going to be an easy summer.