
Term 3 - 2025: Week 4 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Selective RW

Section 1:

#1 Opening paragraph: "Pitter. Patter. The sound of soft rain was coming from outside of the cozy, warm tree canopy I had quietly settled myself in."

Strengths: Your opening creates a peaceful setting with good sensory details. The short sentences "Pitter. Patter." work well to show the rain sound.

Weakness: Unclear setting → Your writing doesn't clearly explain where you are sitting. The phrase "outside of the cozy, warm tree canopy I had quietly settled myself in" is confusing because you mention being under a canopy but also sitting on a bench. This makes it hard for readers to picture the scene.

Exemplar: "I sat on a wooden bench under the shelter of large tree branches, listening to the gentle pitter-patter of rain on the leaves above."

#2 Middle section: "Without thinking, I heard myself say to the stranger, 'D-do you want to share?' They nodded thankfully, and I smiled sheepishly at them."

Strengths: Your dialogue feels natural and shows the character's nervousness well. The stammering "D-do" helps show how unsure the character feels.

Weakness: Weak character development → The stranger remains completely unknown throughout your story. You don't give any details about their appearance, age, or background beyond being thin and cold. This makes it harder for readers to connect with the situation.

Exemplar: "The elderly woman nodded gratefully, her weathered hands trembling as she reached towards the sandwich."

#3 Ending paragraph: "Even though the whole entire sandwich would've made my stomach much more happy, the feeling of someone's day being brightened because of me was much better than being selfish and satisfying only myself."

Strengths: Your message about kindness is clear and meaningful. You show good reflection about the character's actions.

Weakness: Simple language choices → Your conclusion uses very basic words and phrases like "much more happy" and "much better" when you could use more interesting vocabulary. The sentence structure is also quite simple for this important moment.

Exemplar: "Although the entire sandwich would have satisfied my hunger completely, the joy of brightening someone's day felt far more rewarding than any selfish pleasure."

■ Your piece tells a heartwarming story about kindness and sharing that readers can easily understand. The main message comes through clearly, and you've chosen a simple but effective situation to explore this theme. However, your writing would benefit from adding more specific details about the characters and setting. Additionally, you could strengthen your vocabulary choices throughout the piece, particularly in the conclusion where the message is most important. Your dialogue works well, but you could develop the stranger's character more to make the interaction feel more realistic. Also, consider expanding on the character's thoughts and feelings to give readers a deeper understanding of the internal conflict. The story structure is solid, but adding more descriptive language would help readers visualise the scene better.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 Pitter. Patter. The sound of soft rain was coming from outside of the cozy, warm tree canopy I had quietly settled myself in [the warm, sheltered area where I had quietly settled beneath the tree canopy]. In my hands was a grilled sandwich filled with lettuce, tomato, cheese, and homemade garlic sauce squeezed in the middle, still quite hot. As I was about to unwrap the sandwich and savour it, I noticed a stranger approaching the bench I was sitting on. They were quite thin—probably because they haven't [hadn't] eaten for days, and they were shivering all over. The stranger sat next to me quietly, eyeing the delicious sandwich I had in my hand. I wasn't sure what to do [;] my conscience was telling me to eat the sandwich myself, as I was also quite hungry, but my heart told me to share with the poor stranger.

#2 Without thinking, I heard myself say to the stranger, "D-do you want to share?" They nodded thankfully, and I smiled sheepishly at them. Grunch: [With a satisfying crunch,] I ripped [tore] the sandwich in half, as evenly as possible, and shakily handed one piece to the stranger, still trying to manage a smile. The stranger bit into their sandwich, savouring every bit. Grunch: [With another crunch,] I took a significant bite into mine as well. Cheese and garlic melted in my mouth, with the crunchy lettuce and tomato to compliment [complement] it. The stranger turned to looked [look] at me gratefully. "Thank you," the stranger said kindly. "It means a lot." They walked away silently, leaving me with the half-cating [eaten] sandwich in my hand. I quickly savoured the sandwich [and] and [] started to walk home, thinking about my actions.

#3 Even though the whole entire [entire] sandwich would've [would have] made my stomach much more happy [much happier], the feeling of someone's day being brightened because of me was much better [far more satisfying] than being selfish and satisfying only myself.