Term 3 - 2025: Week 4 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

Section 1:

#1 "As the dusty watch sagged on her wrist, a sunflower lay beneath the deep weeds at the apex of the backyard, wilting and drooping down like gravity was pulling it."

Strengths: Your opening creates a strong visual connection between the watch and the sunflower, establishing symbolism early. The imagery of something "sagging" effectively conveys neglect and weariness.

Weakness: Unclear spatial relationships → The connection between the watch on someone's wrist and the sunflower in the backyard feels confusing. Readers cannot easily understand how these elements relate to each other or who is wearing the watch when you shift to first person later.

Exemplar: As I stared at the dusty watch sagging on my wrist, I noticed a sunflower wilting beneath the weeds in our backyard, drooping as if gravity itself was pulling it down.

#2 "My eyes glare in frustration, 'What a waste of time.', I felt brutal, my mother's normally pleasant eyes lost the highlight."

Strengths: You effectively show the emotional impact on both characters through the description of your mother's changed expression. The dialogue reveals your character's dismissive attitude clearly.

Weakness: Sentence structure confusion → The sentence jumps between different ideas without proper connections. The phrase "I felt brutal" doesn't connect smoothly to the description of your mother's eyes, making the meaning unclear.

Exemplar: My eyes glared in frustration as I snapped, "What a waste of time." Immediately, I felt brutal—my mother's normally pleasant eyes lost their sparkle.

#3 "I lugubriously approach my mother, who lasers me with her eyes, full of excruciation and despair."

Strengths: Your use of advanced vocabulary like "lugubriously" and "excruciation" shows strong language skills. The metaphor "lasers me with her eyes" creates a powerful image of intense emotion.

Weakness: Tense inconsistency → You switch from past tense ("felt brutal") to present tense ("approach") without clear reason, which disrupts the story flow and confuses readers about when events happen.

Exemplar: I lugubriously approached my mother, who lasered me with her eyes, full of excruciation and despair.

■ Your piece demonstrates impressive vocabulary and creates meaningful symbolism through the watch and sunflower. The emotional conflict between you and your mother feels genuine and relatable. However, your writing would benefit from clearer connections between ideas and more consistent storytelling techniques. The relationship between different elements sometimes feels jumbled, making it harder for readers to follow your story smoothly. Additionally, you could strengthen your piece by maintaining consistent verb tenses throughout. Your dialogue effectively shows character attitudes, but the surrounding descriptions need better flow. Also, consider making the setting and character positions clearer from the beginning so readers can easily picture what's happening. Furthermore, work on connecting your sentences more smoothly so each idea leads naturally to the next one.

Overall Score: 37/50

Section 2:

#1 As the dusty watch sagged on her [my] wrist, a sunflower lay beneath the deep weeds at the apex of the backyard, wilting and drooping down like gravity was pulling it. My dissatisfaction with the fashion floated in the clouds, following me everywhere. As my mother pleads [pleaded] for me to wear it every day, I seoff [scoffed], "You're just bringing me down for life." My mother, everyday says [mother said every day], "One day, you'll understand..."

#2 It's something that I find that is a disruption to the future[.] h[H]ow can a watch hold so much meaning? My eyes glare [glared] in frustration[as I snapped,] "What a waste of time~~.[.]", I felt brutal,~~ [—] my mother's normally pleasant eyes lost the [their] highlight. My chest tightened, the sun outside darkened, π [and a] dull feeling compressed my stomach when [as I] crawlinged towards my room.

The feeling withered a blossoming piece of hope inside me. #3 I lugubriously approach [approached] my mother, who lasers [lasered] me with her eyes, full of excruciation and despair. "It was a family legacy[.] w[W]ho would've thought you were the one to shatter it?!" she utters [uttered], her voice fading.

I lean [leaned] towards her[as] words almost soundlessly slide [slid] out of my mouth[.] s[S]he brushes [brushed] on a smile. The sunfloweronce withering and colourless [colourless,] stood on their [its] tip-toes[.] t[T]he ones [one] who [that] faced the sun seemed to be glazed with a layer of gold.