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

Section 1

#1 - Opening section: "It has been ten years since Lilly saw her parents. Lilly had been at a high school for 3 years, the other 7 years, Lilly has been exploring the whole wide world with Julie her friend."

Strengths: Your opening immediately establishes an intriguing backstory that makes readers curious about why Lilly has been separated from her parents for so long. You've created a clear timeline showing Lilly's journey through school and travel.

Weakness: Timeline confusion → The maths in your opening doesn't add up properly, which confuses readers about Lilly's age and situation. If she's been away for ten years total, with three years at high school and seven years exploring, this suggests she started travelling when she was very young, but now she's in Year 10. The phrase "Lilly has been exploring" also mixes past and present tense awkwardly.

Exemplar: It had been ten years since Lilly last saw her parents. After spending three years at boarding school, she had travelled the world with her friend Julie for seven years before returning to complete her education.

#2 - Dialogue section: "What grade are you in?" Asked the mysterious person" / "I am in year 10." Julie answered confused

Strengths: Your dialogue moves the story forward quickly and creates mystery about the stranger's identity. The conversation feels natural and realistic for a school setting.

Weakness: Punctuation errors \rightarrow Your dialogue punctuation isn't following proper rules, which makes it harder to read smoothly. "Asked the mysterious person" should be connected to the dialogue with a comma, not a full stop, and "answered confused" needs an adverb form.

Exemplar: "What grade are you in?" asked the mysterious person. "I am in Year 10," Julie answered confusedly.

#3 - Recognition scene: "Lilly's stomach had butterflies spinning in her stomach, suddenly the new science teacher looked familiar. Lilly felt like that she has seen the new science teacher before but her head was just exploding with thoughts."

Strengths: You've captured Lilly's nervous excitement well with the butterfly metaphor, and you show her internal confusion effectively. The building tension works well for this recognition scene.

Weakness: Repetitive phrasing → You repeat "stomach" twice in the first sentence and "new science teacher" appears too often in close proximity. The comma placement is also incorrect, and "felt like that she has seen" is grammatically awkward.

Exemplar: Lilly's stomach filled with butterflies as the new science teacher suddenly looked familiar. She felt as though she had seen this person before, but her mind was spinning with confused thoughts.

■ Your piece shows creativity in bringing together a mother and daughter after a long separation, which creates genuine emotional impact. The surprise element works well because you build suspense gradually through Lilly's recognition process. However, your writing would benefit from more detailed descriptions to help readers visualise the scene better. Additionally, you could develop the emotional moments more fully - when Lilly realises it's her mum, this deserves more exploration of her feelings. Your dialogue needs attention to punctuation rules, and several sentences require restructuring for clarity. Also, consider adding more background about why Lilly was separated from her parents, as this would make the reunion more meaningful. The ending feels rushed, so expanding on the characters' reactions would strengthen your story's emotional core.

Overall Score: 37/50

Section 2

#1The Surprise

It has been ten years since Lilly saw her parents. Lilly had been at a high school for 3 years, the other 7 years ,Lilly has been exploring the whole wide world with Julie her friend. [It had been ten years since Lilly last saw her parents. After attending boarding school for three years, Lilly had spent the remaining seven years exploring the world with her friend Julie.] They went to several different countries. During that time Lilly was a busy little bee making sure that She and Julie know when to go, not loosing anything and planning hotels and flights. [They had travelled to several different countries. During that time, Lilly had been incredibly organised, ensuring that she and Julie knew when to depart, not losing anything, and planning hotels and flights.] One ordinary day Lilly was walking out of Lilly and Julie's" room talking to her friend Julie until... [One ordinary day, Lilly was walking out of her shared room, talking to Julie, when suddenly...]

A stranger approached in front of the Science room. [A stranger approached them in front of the science room.]

#2 "What grade are you in?" Asked the mysterious person ["What grade are you in?" asked the mysterious person.]

"I am in Year 10." Julie answered confused ["I am in Year 10," Julie answered confusedly.]

"Oh then I will be teaching you Science for the rest of the year." ["Oh, then I will be teaching you science for the rest of the year."]

#3 Lilly's stomach had butterflies spinning in her stomach, suddenly the new science teacher looked familiar. [Butterflies filled Lilly's stomach as the new science teacher suddenly looked familiar.] Lilly felt like that she has seen the new science teacher before but her head was just exploding with thoughts. [Lilly felt as though she had seen the teacher before, but her mind was spinning with thoughts.]

"What if I am imagining things?, Why does she look similar?" Lilly said quietly to herself. ["What if I am imagining things? Why does she look so familiar?" Lilly whispered to herself.]

"Lilly do you remember me?" ["Lilly, do you remember me?"]

Suddenly she knew exactly who: [Suddenly, she knew exactly who it was.]

Mum, is that you?" Lilly questioned curiously ["Mum, is that you?" Lilly asked curiously.]

Believe it or not it was Lilly's mum [Believe it or not, it was Lilly's mum.]

"Are you excited that I am teaching you for the rest of this year!"her mum asked ["Are you excited that I am teaching you for the rest of this year?" her mum asked.]

Julie was waiting on the side patiently and quietly like a dog patiently waiting waiting for someone to play with. [Julie waited on the side patiently and quietly, like a dog waiting for someone to play with.]

Yes, I am so happy!" Lilly yelled with joy ["Yes, I am so happy!" Lilly exclaimed with joy.]

Lilly and Julie's class also has science today. On the way back Lilly and Julie was hopping, Spinning all the way back to "Julie and Lilly's room with excitement that Lilly's mum was going to teach their science class. [Lilly and Julie's class also had science that day. On the way back, Lilly and Julie were hopping and spinning all the way back to their shared room with excitement that Lilly's mum was going to teach their science class.]