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

Section 1:

#1 - "Laura's eyes pierced through the clear window of the train. She had finally arrived at the station, back home. Laura had been away for years without her beloved family, though their faces were just a blur in her mind."

Strengths: Your opening creates a clear setting and introduces the main character effectively. You've established an intriguing premise about memory loss that makes readers want to continue.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence structure → Your sentences follow a similar pattern throughout this section, making the writing feel choppy. Notice how "Laura's eyes pierced" and "Laura had been away" and "Laura didn't remember" all start with the character's name, creating a monotonous rhythm.

Exemplar: Instead of "Laura's eyes pierced through the clear window," you could write "Through the train's clear window, Laura's eyes searched the familiar yet foreign landscape."

#2 - "Laura's dad wrapped Laura in a hug tightly. Laura reacted fast and struggled out of her dad's arms. 'Stay away from me, you don't know who I am!' Laura shouted, crossing her arms."

Strengths: You've captured the emotional conflict well and shown Laura's confusion through her actions. The dialogue reveals her mental state effectively.

Weakness: Unclear character motivation \rightarrow Your readers might struggle to understand why Laura reacts so strongly to a stranger's hug when she's looking for her family. The connection between her memory loss and her fearful reaction needs clearer explanation.

Exemplar: You could add: "Something deep inside warned her that this stranger felt too familiar, too caring, which frightened her confused mind."

#3 - "Laura's dad drove her back to her old house as the puzzle pieces in Laura's mind started to fit together. Inside, she saw herself when she was young. Tears cascaded down on her face as more photos she saw."

Strengths: Your metaphor of puzzle pieces effectively shows how memories return gradually. The emotional impact of seeing childhood photos is relatable.

Weakness: Fragmented sentence construction → Your final sentence in this section has jumbled word order that confuses the meaning. "Tears cascaded down on her face as more photos she saw" doesn't flow naturally and makes readers pause.

Exemplar: Instead, try: "Tears cascaded down her face as she saw more photographs from her childhood."

■ Your piece tackles an interesting theme about memory and family reconnection that many readers can relate to. The emotional journey from confusion to recognition creates a compelling narrative arc. However, your writing would benefit from varying your sentence structures more throughout the story. Additionally, you could strengthen the story by explaining Laura's condition more clearly readers need to understand whether this is amnesia, a medical condition, or simply the effects of time. Also, the resolution happens quite quickly, which makes the emotional impact feel rushed. Try expanding the moment when Laura's memories return to give readers time to feel the full weight of her realisation. Furthermore, consider adding more sensory details beyond what Laura sees - what does her childhood home smell like? What sounds trigger her memories? These details would make your story more vivid and engaging for readers.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 Laura's eyes pierced through the clear window of the train. She had finally arrived at the station, back home. Laura had been away for years without her beloved family, though their faces were just a blur in her mind. She didn't remember much about her family and what they were like. Their identity was just distant, no clear memories came back to Laura [and no clear memories returned to her].

#2 The train went to a complete stop. Laura, confused, walked onto the platform. The wind swept across her face. She wanted to go home. Laura didn't remember parts of her hometown. She felt like it was her first time here. She tried to remember playing here once, but nothing came back.

"Laura!"

Her dad called out. Laura flung her head around, trying to figure out who had called her name. She looked at everyone, but nobody seemed familiar, even though her father was standing a few feet away from her. She simply didn't remember anything about her family.

#3 Laura's dad wrapped Laura in a hug tightly. Laura reacted fast and struggled out of her dad's arms.

"Stay away from me, you don't know who I am!" Laura shouted, crossing her arms. A sense of anger rushed through Laura's body as she tried to calm down, [] after all that commotion. []

Laura stared back at her dad, and her eyebrows furrowed. She could see a tear trembling down his eye. Laura's eyes started to water, realising she had made her dad cry without realizing [realising] it was him.

"Laura, it's me, your dad" he whispered so only Laura could hear. As soon as Laura heard the word 'dad', she raced up to him and hugged him like a teddy bear. Her memories were still faint and fading, but little pieces started to come back. "I didn't realize [realise] it was you" Laura cried, remembering her actions towards someone she loved.

Laura's dad drove her back to her old house as the puzzle pieces in Laura's mind started to fit together. Inside, she saw herself when she was young. Tears cascaded down on her face as more photos she saw [Tears cascaded down her face as she saw more photographs]. Laura had fully remembered her family. She realized [realised] it was them. Her mum and brother had been waiting for her, preparing surprises and food.

As Laura started eating, she remembered the times she sat at the exact table before she left. Laura finally saw her family's faces for the first time after years.